

THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA :: THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL
AND OTHER PROVINCIAL MARKETING POOLS

Vol. 10

CALGARY, ALBERTA, MAY 1st, 1931

No. 9

What Makes the Wild West Wild



With apologies to "The Country Gentleman"

"It ill becomes hon. gentlemen who know of an isolated case here and another there, to draw a general conclusion in respect to conditions in Western Canada. . . . If honorable members will take the trouble to investigate they will find that wherever men have had regard for economic laws, and have kept free from speculation and wild dreams of sudden wealth, they are happy and contented and have provided a good livelihood for themselves and their families."—Premier Bennett, in the House of Commons, April 21, 1931. ("Hansard", unrevised edition, pages 854-855).

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Many Entries in Field Crops Competition

Approximately 600 boys have entered the Junior Field Crops Competition for 1931, through Junior U.F.A. Locals. Three separate competitions—for wheat, alfalfa and oats—are being assisted by the Alberta Wheat Pool, the Grimm Alfalfa Seed Growers' Association, and the Western Canada Flour Mills, respectively. Through the co-operation of these bodies, seed is supplied to the competitors at a nominal price. Field men of the Alberta Department of Agriculture will exercise close supervision of all crop work; some cash prizes are being arranged, and some special trips for the competitors are being considered. The Field Crops Branch, Alberta Department of Agriculture, is in direct charge of the program.

For the wheat competitions, the Province has been divided into fifteen zones, and there will be two competitions in each zone. These zones, with the competition centres in brackets, are as follows: Lethbridge (Lethbridge, Bow Island); Claresholm (Nobleford, Rainier); Calgary (Balzac, Nanton); Olds (Morrin, Huxley); Hanna (Youngstown, Oyen); Coronation (Consort, Sedalia); Sedgewick (Hayter, Hardisty); Camrose (Camrose, Alliance); Lacombe (Lacombe, Wetaskiwin); Vermilion (Mannville, Islay); Vegreville (Mundare, Willingdon); Edmonton (Bon Accord, Waskatenau); Westlock (Stony Plain, Alcomdale); Athabasca (St. Paul, Athabasca); Grande Prairie.

The following are the centres for the alfalfa competitions: Stony Plain, Sedgewick, Provost, Camrose, Strome, Alliance, Lacombe, Huxley, East Calgary, Willingdon, Vegreville, Viking, St. Paul, Legal.

The centres for the oats competitions will be selected shortly; it is expected they will be at points between Edmonton and Calgary.

U.F.A. Sunday

Officers and members are asked to note that U.F.A. Sunday will be observed on June 21st.

Declare Saskatchewan Act Invalid

The Grain Marketing Act of Saskatchewan, providing machinery for setting up a 100 per cent Pool by legislation, has been declared by the Saskatchewan court of appeal to be beyond the powers of the Provincial Legislature to enact. The finding of the four judges was unanimous. It is anticipated that the decision will be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada and possibly to the Privy Council.

National Railways Thanked

Thanks to Sir Henry Thornton and the Canadian National Railways for assistance rendered in providing employment for those in rural districts who have been in want, were expressed recently by Premier Anderson of Saskatchewan, who refers to the fine public spirit displayed by the national lines.

THE VICTORS

They on the heights are not the souls
Who never erred nor went astray;
Who trod unswerving towards their
goals

Along a smooth, rose-bordered way.
Nay—those who stand, where first comes
dawn,
Are those who stumbled but went on.
Selected.

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THE ALFERTA EGG AND POULTRY POOL
THE ALFERTA CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE
THE ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE OIL POOL

Editor
W. NORMAN SMITH

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EDITORIAL

5

C. W. S. DIRECTOR COMMENDS U. F. A. PLAN

During his recent visit to Alberta as one of a group of three executive officers of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society, George Riddle, the Society's Director of Finance, expressed intense and sympathetic interest in the Province-wide campaign recently launched by the United Farmers of Alberta with a view to the formation of district co-operative associations for the purchasing of bulk commodities, and the linking of these groups in a Provincial organization. He expressed the opinion that the plan which the U.F.A. has adopted is essentially sound, and provides great possibilities for expansion of the consumer movement.

The "C.W.S.", to use the abbreviated title of the English wholesale society, is the largest organization of its kind in the English-speaking world. Its membership totals four and a half million persons. In view of Mr. Riddle's wide experience and distinguished record as an officer of this great society his views upon our own plans of development inspire confidence, and will strengthen the determination of officers and members of the Association to carry their undertaking to a successful issue.

* * *

Writing in these columns a year ago, we stated that the U.F.A., which has been the generating plant of the co-operative movement in Alberta in its every phase, has been too frequently the victim of its own successes. Having released the energies and influence which have made possible every advance in the field of co-operation,

the primary organization has witnessed the growth of a tendency to dispersion of the co-operative forces, to duplication of effort, both locally and in wider fields. This has not always been avoidable; but the time has come, if it is not long overdue, when as far as possible the tendency should be reversed. Whatever cause impairs the strength of the U.F.A. impairs the strength of the whole movement. Dispersion of effort makes for weakness. Strength lies in unity. Re-integration of the movement can be begun, with every prospect of success, in the field which has been chosen: in the organization of the farm people on a U.F.A. membership basis for the purchase of bulk commodities. The conspicuous success achieved in Coronation can be duplicated in many other farm communities throughout the Province.

* * *

PREMIER BENNETT'S VIEW OF THE WEST

Mr. Speakerman, Mr. Gardiner and Miss Macphail, speaking for the independent groups, made effective replies to Premier Bennett's amazing statements in regard to farm conditions in Western Canada. They came directly to the point, as in the following by Mr. Gardiner:

"I do not know where the Prime Minister obtains his information, unless it be from the secretary of the Canadian Bankers' Association. If he believes that such information is absolutely correct, then I can understand the position he adopted this afternoon. I say without fear of contradiction that those who have recently had the opportunity of visiting the West and meeting the people actually living on the land ought to know more about conditions than those who have not had such an opportunity. It is unfortunate that important or so-called important persons from Eastern Canada seem to obtain their information with regard to conditions in Western Canada from such places as the lobby of the Palliser Hotel in Calgary. They do not seem to be given the opportunity of getting out among the people and finding out just how they are being affected by present conditions."

* * *

PROPHECIES AND PROSPERITY

Sir Josiah Stamp, noted statistician, declares in an interview that the end of the present depression "will not be in sight before the end of the next three months." Sir George Paish, another noted statistician, who two years ago in the role of a modern Cassandra predicted the approaching financial disaster, believes that "the end of the present depression will come within the next four years." All of which is not very illuminating. What is certain is that there can be no security or permanent prosperity under the existing economic-financial system, which even in the best of times largely fails to deliver the goods from producer to consumer. To change the system is our major social task.

NEWS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Activities of Locals and District Associations and Information from Central Office—Notes on Co-operation

Campaign to Organize Consumers' Co-operatives Makes Progress

Province-wide Interest in Plan to Organize on U.F.A. Membership Basis

THE plan of organization of constituency and district co-operative associations for the purchase of bulk commodities on a U.F.A. membership basis, as set forth by the Vice-President in behalf of the Executive and Board, has aroused widespread interest throughout rural Alberta. Under the direction of officers of the Association, the organization campaign is already making good progress.

As described elsewhere, in seven Provincial constituencies definite steps have been taken towards the creation of co-operatives in accordance with the plan outlined in *The U.F.A.* of April 1st, by Mr. Priestley.

The fact that the new undertaking provides for organization on a U.F.A. membership basis, as in the Coronation constituency, has been the occasion of much favorable comment.

As stated in the announcement issued in behalf of the Association, it is proposed to set up a Provincial organization as soon as the number of constituency and district co-operatives warrants such action.

Officers and members of the Association are requested to forward for publication in *The U.F.A.* news of the progress of the co-operative organization campaign in their districts.

Linking up With Overseas Co-operators

By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

It is one of the ironies of life that the will to co-operate is usually born of a sense of weakness and poverty. To be able "to go one's own sweet way," do what one wishes to do, and please oneself, when and how, is regarded by great numbers of people as the essence of liberty and true happiness.

For this reason times of depression in industry and commerce have a real value. They bring us, though reluctantly, to a recognition of our limitations as individuals. We, who have been more or less satisfied to be independent of our fellows, feeling it irksome to be bound by contracts and compelled to share with others in the proceeds of our common efforts find ourselves more disposed to examine the merits of co-operation as a method of doing business and of living.

We are all impressed with the great social changes which are taking place in the world today. Without doubt new political and economic forces and methods are being tried out which bid fair to transform the whole field of social relations in the course of the present century. Is there not a danger, however, of our sinking into a state of apathy or even despair with respect to our own condition and of inertly waiting to be carried out of it by these world forces? Cannot we do something for ourselves meanwhile? We can. We can develop the technique of co-operation. Every step we take should be of immediate benefit to us; and what we do will be built into the structure of experience, and be found useful no matter what changes take place on the stage of world affairs.

If we can but arouse and develop the co-operative spirit while seeking with all earnestness for the true solution to our great problems, if we will but take to heart the maxim that we can only "learn to do things by doing

them," we shall then be ready and be preparing the way for the time when men are sufficiently awake to the possibilities of social organization to undertake them.

* * *

The foregoing is preliminary to saying that the scene is set for a great advance in our life here in Alberta. We have not co-operated in our local farming communities and on a Province-wide scale through our marketing pools for nothing. There are those who question whether we have yet gained sufficient experience to ensure, for instance, a Province-wide co-operative organization of consumers through our farm organization. The Annual Convention of the U.F.A. in January of this year placed itself on record as believing that we have. We were commissioned to go out and make test of that belief. We are doing so. Scores and hundreds of earnest U.F.A. workers are now taking the preliminary steps in organization.

It will be of interest to our readers to know that the business world has its eye on what we are undertaking. We are assured already of the keen desire of some to enter into business relations with us. Among these none is more important than the group of representatives of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society which recently visited Western Canada.

Conference With British Co-operators

On Thursday, April 16th, under the auspices of the Alberta Livestock Producers, the Livestock Pool as it is more familiarly known, a group representative of the Pool, the U.F.A., the Alberta Co-operative Wholesale, banking and business interests, together with Premier J. E. Brownlee, Hon. George Hoadley and Hon. R. G. Reid, met in Edmonton to confer with Messrs. George Riddle, George

Brooks and Wray Eastwood of the C.W.S. Mr. Riddle is Director of Finance in that great co-operative organization. Mr. Brooks is on the Grocery Committee which is also in charge of buying for the butcher departments and stores. Mr. Eastwood is the manager of the Livestock department of the Manchester district, and is one of the largest buyers of live meat in the world. A brief story of the meeting in its particular bearing upon the livestock industry of Alberta is given on the Livestock Pool page of this issue.

Three meetings were held during the day. The luncheon meeting was attended by about seventeen persons, half of whom continued their conference on livestock matters in the office of the Premier during the afternoon. It is with the morning meeting that we are here more immediately concerned. At that meeting representatives of the C.W.S. were given an outline of the developments now taking place through the U.F.A. in mobilizing the purchasing power of the farmers of Alberta. When told that our association of eighteen thousand members was planning to set up co-operative associations along district and constituency lines for the purchase of bulk commodities they were greatly interested. They quite readily comprehended the simplicity of our proposed organization and its efficiency for the purpose intended. They were told of the methods and success of the Coronation Constituency U.F.A. Co-operative. One of the group who was making his first visit to Canada expressed some surprise that there was not a prosperous co-operative store in every small town, for instance, between Calgary and Edmonton, a line over which he had just passed.

Possibilities of Reciprocal Trade

Mr. Riddle, who had been several times to the West and knew that we had concentrated our co-operative forces for many years chiefly in the field of marketing, evinced great interest and opened before us a field of possibilities in connection with the great producer and consumer interests which they represent. He saw no reason why there should not be reciprocal trade along co-operative lines. He instanced types of bulk commodities which they could sell to us in great quantities. On the other hand there were farm products of ours for which they could find a steady, continuous and profitable market.

Limits of space and the necessity for some care in discussing these matters prevent us from going into further detail in this article. It is sufficient to say that here is an open door of relief. Here is a field of economic development which it will be useful to enter, no matter what the changes which may occur in the near or more remote future. The co-operative societies of Great Britain number six million members. They constitute a body of producers and consumers more highly organized and integrated than any other body of that size in the world. If we have the will to co-operate and can bring to the exchange counter our purchasing power as well as the goods we have to sell great things may be accomplished by way of establishing the co-operative principle and introducing and maintaining the principle in wider and yet wider areas of the life of the world.

Leduc U.F.A. Constituency Association Hold Successful Convention at Calmar

**Important Resolution Asks Depreciated
Currency or Writing Off of Fifty Per
Cent of All Public and Private Debts**

By J. E. COOK, Secretary

Twenty-four delegates from a wide territory attended the annual convention of the Leduc U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Provincial Constituency Association held at Calmar, Alta., on Wednesday, April 8th, and the enthusiasm and earnestness shown in the discussion of the affairs of the Association was an indication of the temper of the people throughout the entire riding.

In the Provincial election Leduc constituency slid back into the column of the Liberals, but by so small a majority that it was patent that a repetition is very unlikely.

It had been expected that Hon. Mr. Lymburn, Attorney General, would be present for the evening meeting. Mr. Lymburn had, however, gone east with Mr. Brownlee and no substitute was available from among the Cabinet Ministers. William Irvine, M.P., in his masterly way, delivered such an excellent review of present-day economic problems, with certain constructive suggestions that are being offered by the U.F.A. group at Ottawa that the natural feeling of neglect on the part of the Provincial Cabinet was to a large extent dispelled.

Officers Elected

Following the adoption of the report of the secretary and consideration of the financial statement, the election of officers resulted as follows: President, D. C. Breton, Telfordville; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. W. Ross, Millet; 2nd Vice-President, A. E. Faulkner, Conjuring Creek; Directors: Chas. King, Breton; E. R. James, Strathcona; Mrs. Frank Hunter, Leduc; Harry Walke, Millet; A. S. Borys, Calmar. Secretary-Treasurer, J. E. Cook Conjuring Creek.

Approving the idea of "co-operative buying as set forth in the report of the Alberta Co-operative Council" and deciding "that steps be taken to ascertain to what extent it is practicable to do co-operative buying on that basis in the Leduc constituency."

The Executive were instructed to take steps to secure information and join up with the Provincial organization.

Deciding to form a debating league to be composed of Locals in the constituency and appointing Mrs. W. Ross convener to organize a debating program for next winter.

Depreciation of Currency

The following, dealing with a very urgent problem is given in full and is self-explanatory:

"Whereas a large percentage of farmers are burdened with debt, and accrued interest on debt;

"And whereas the present outlook for markets for any sort of farm produce is such as to make it impossible to entertain the idea of ever paying these debts; and

"Whereas these debts were contracted under highly inflated prices and were consequently more than doubled by the deflation caused by the return to the gold basis;

"Therefore, be it resolved, that Dominion Government be urged to depreciate our currency to the war time status and stabilize it at that point or failing

Seven Constituencies Report Plans to Organize Co-operatives

Plans to organize Co-operative Associations on a U.F.A. membership are already reported from seven Provincial Constituencies.

Leduc Constituency Convention on April 8th expressed approval of the undertaking; directed that steps be taken to ascertain to what extent the constituency basis might be followed in the process of organization, and instructed the constituency Executive to join up with the Provincial organization when this is formed.

The Executive of the Stony Plain Provincial Constituency Association decided on April 17th to organize the U.F.A. Locals in accordance with the plan, and arranged for a general meeting of the Association to be called later by the president to perfect arrangements. Practically every Local in the constituency was represented at the Executive meeting, states the *Stony Plain Sun*, and the president, W. F. Broadstock, "congratulated the meeting on the splendid turn-out of delegates." Glen Storie, U.F.A. Director, explained the plan.

On May 9th officers of Acadia Provincial Constituency will hold a meeting to be attended by J. K. Sutherland, U.F.A. Director, and Lorne Proudfoot, M.L.A., to take steps towards the organization of a U.F.A. Co-operative Association for the constituency.

J. M. Wheatley, U.F.A. Director for Bow River, is arranging to bring together officers of the Bow Valley Constituency Association together with representatives of the Locals, to deal with this matter, and has issued a circular to Locals in the district in order that they may appoint instructed delegates to a constituency convention to be called later.

In Pembina Constituency, arrangements are also being made with a view to the organization of a U.F.A. Co-operative Association, and a convention will be called at which it is anticipated the work of organization will be completed.

J. E. Brown, U.F.A. Director for Stettler, and J. K. Sutherland and A. L. Sanders, M.L.A., met the Stettler Provincial Board recently. The plan was approved and a convention will be called to perfect arrangements after seeding.

Hand Hills Provincial Board will meet after seeding to deal with organization of a co-operative.

this, cause all private and public debt to be written off at least 50 per cent.

"Be it further resolved that all interest charges on arrears for 1930 and all interest charges for 1931 be cancelled and that the Dominion Government fix and enforce a maximum legal rate of interest at 5 per cent."

A further resolution pointed out that the tariff imposes an intolerable burden on Western agriculture, and therefore urged the Federal Government "to find some way of compensating the Western farmers at this session of Parliament, for the extra burden imposed upon them by a national policy of protection" and suggested "that funds for this purpose be provided by increasing the income tax."

Declaration of World Disarmament

"U.F.W.A. Locals that are circulating the Disarmament petition sponsored by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will be interested to know that among the many who have already signed are Premier J. E. Brownlee and Robert Gardiner, Esq., M.P., President of the U.F.A." writes Miss Julia Seymour, Secretary of the Edmonton branch. "Quite a number of forms have already been returned and the W. I. L. expresses gratitude for this prompt action. It is suggested that when the names of members of the Locals do not fill the forms, other persons outside the Locals might be asked to sign. Extra copies will gladly be sent on request."

Junior Conference Fund

Previously acknowledged, \$175; Conrich Juniors, \$5; Crerar U.F.A., \$5; Grand Meadow U.F.W.A., \$5; Winfield U.F.W.A., \$5; Bon Accord Juniors, \$5; Devonia

Lake U.F.W.A., \$5; East Lethbridge U.F.W.A., \$5; Beddington U.F.A., \$5; Queenstown U.F.A., \$5; Dalemead U.F.W.A., \$5; Poplar Lake U.F.W.A., \$5; Olds U.F.W.A., \$5; Sedgewick U.F.W.A., \$5; Bar Harbor Hustlers Jr., \$5; Prosby U.F.A., \$5; Rowley Jr., \$5; Hillside U.F.A., \$5; Merna U.F.W.A., \$5; Wild Rose U.F.W.A., \$5; Notre Dame U.F.W.A., \$5; Fleet U.F.W.A., \$5; Willowdale U.F.W.A., \$5; Tudor U.F.W.A., \$5; Balzac Jr., \$10; Wheatsheaf U.F.A., \$5; Strathmore U.F.W.A., \$5; Valley U.F.W.A., \$5; Blackie U.F.W.A., \$5; Carseland U.F.W.A., \$5; Rosyth Jr., \$5; Starline Jr., \$5; Total \$335.

CUTWORM TROUBLE EXPECTED

A map of Alberta and Saskatchewan, showing the districts where trouble from cutworms is expected in 1931, has been issued by the Entomological Branch of the Federal Government, and copies can be obtained from the King's Printer, Ottawa. It is stated that any fields in these areas which were harvested, grazed, cultivated, or had a loose dusty surface from August 1st to September 15th, 1930, are liable to have cutworms in 1931. Very early seeding of a test strip in such fields was advised; cutworm injury in such strips should be apparent by May 15th. Reseeding of fields destroyed by cutworms should not be done before June 20th, or later if the season should be backward.

The ingredients for cutworm bait are given again in a recent bulletin from the Federal Department of Agriculture: Bran 20 lbs.; paris green, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; molasses, 1 quart; and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons water. Gardens that were heavily infested last year should be treated before plants are set out.

Have you sent in a contribution to the Junior Conference Fund?

A Speech that Mr. Bennett Will Bitterly Regret

Prime Minister Waves Aside Pleas of Western Representatives
for Recognition of Farmers' Desperate Plight—"In a Few
Isolated Cases You May Be Able to Find Hardship"



By E. J. GARLAND, M.P.

THE motion adopting the address in reply to the lengthy speech from the throne has just been voted on. It contained little of interest to farmer or industrial worker. The debate was prolonged, probably one of the longest on record, and indicates in the number of speakers and the character of most of the speeches the very serious conditions confronting the country. It would seem that Mr. Bennett and his Government have not realised the very serious character of economic conditions (though this is hard to believe with the distant echoes of the campaign speeches of the Conservatives still ringing through the land) or are not prepared to face them.

Every member of the Farmer and Labor Groups took part in the debate and each, not satisfied with criticism alone, presented constructive proposals calculated to improve conditions. The attitude of the Groups was that of anxiety to co-operate in seeking solutions and was well summarised in the sub-amendment moved by Mr. Robert Gardiner on the second last day of the debate.

Farmer-Labor Amendment

This sub-amendment asked for a Special Committee to make an exhaustive examination into the causes of the present depression, with all powers to call witnesses, and to suggest appropriate action to prevent or render less probable the recurrence of such disasters. This proposal recognised that the multitude of suggestions put forward as solutions—almost as many as there were speakers—but helped further to confuse the situation and that intelligent investigation of the problems and careful planning for constructive action were urgently needed.

Our amendment did not limit its recommendations to this one proposal but, recognizing the needs of agriculture and industrial classes recommended immediate consideration of some system of Federal assistance to supply necessary credits to agriculture, and a further measure of direct relief for the unemployed.

The amendment moved by the Liberals whilst probably a fairly accurate statement of the situation, was quite unconstructive and to that extent fictitious. The Liberal party almost unanimously accepted our sub-amendment and voted for it.

Bennett's Astounding Speech

What of the party in power? On the day following the moving of the sub-amendment, Mr. Bennett made the most astonishing speech of the session, and I feel sure the most astounding of his career. He charged us with exaggeration, with over-stating the conditions, with "broadcasting throughout this country, and in other countries, statements that cannot be substantiated in any manner or form." But the reader of Hansard will note that he did not refer to individuals nor quote the exaggerations to which he referred; lawyer-like, he endeavored to create an impression without evidence. On the other hand I direct attention of readers to the extracts from speeches of U.F.A. members in Hansard that they may determine whether of their own knowledge the

case for agriculture is overstated. Why it cannot be overstated.

But listen to Mr. Bennett:

"Few Isolated Cases"

"It is true that in a few isolated cases you may be able to find hardship; of course you may." So now we know that hardship in the West is limited to a few isolated cases.

Says Mr. Bennett: "It ill becomes hon. gentlemen here, who know of an isolated case here and another there, to draw a general conclusion in respect to conditions in Western Canada. I can say that in Western Canada there are tens of thousands of farmers who have deposits of money in the banks."

Thus does the Prime Minister of Canada airily wave aside the fervent pleas of the representatives of most Western constituencies for consideration of their desperate plight.

Then, to prove to his satisfaction that we were not so badly off, he took statistics covering 1930, 1929 and 1928. Note you, 1928 was apparently necessary to make his figures convincing. These figures showed that the GROSS agricultural revenue from the three Prairie Provinces

amounted to \$1,900,000,000. And in addition mineral wealth to the amount of \$100,000,000. Now he says because we have produced all this GROSS wealth in THREE YEARS, "it ill behooves the representatives of these people to have it sent abroad . . . that this country is worn out" (a phrase not used, to my memory, by any member in the debate except Mr. Bennett) "and in a bankrupt condition."

But now, please note Mr. Bennett's explanation of why some hardship may exist; he said:

"If hon. members will take the trouble to investigate they will find that wherever men have had regard for economic laws and have kept free from speculation and wild dreams of sudden wealth, they are happy and contented. . . ."

The Prime Minister, evidently feeling that the foregoing had not been sufficiently convincing, then proceeded to quote statistics showing the total number of cars in the three Western Provinces. He did not separate the cars owned in cities and towns of ten thousand population or over, which would have given a fairer picture, nor did he tell the House that a car was almost as much a necessity on a Western farm as any other implement. He waxed eloquent over the amount of revenue from licenses and gasoline tax and the total cost of all motor operated vehicles as proving that we were neither insolvent nor close to it.

Then, in thundering tones such as only Mr. Bennett possesses, tones expressing the pitch of righteous indignation and the emphasis of conviction, he demands:

"What is the cause of the great depression in Western Canada?" He pauses. The House leans forward anxious lest they miss one syllable of the profound utterance. The galleries rustle in anticipation of a climax. The answer comes:

"HON. GENTLEMEN OPPOSITE KNOW THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT CAUSE IS SPECULATION". . . . "speculation in the large sense in which the term is used," "Think of the speculation in instalment buying, the gambling of one's ability to pay instalments against a wage that might not continue."

If your indignation does not get the better of you, dear reader, you might ask yourself how could the West have reached its present state of development without this system? how much the protected manufacturers of farm implements would have sold had they been limited to cash transactions? how many farms would now be inhabited if we all had not the courage to gamble on weather, frost, drought, hail, pests, wind and other risks?

Argument Obviously Absurd

But surely such an argument is obviously absurd. For all agriculture throughout the world is affected, and here we might quote from the report of the committee of twenty experts at



E. J. GARLAND, M.P.

Geneva: "One thing that makes the present depression serious is that it apparently affects the whole of agricultural production from wheat to lemons, sugar, rice, potatoes, tea, cotton, rubber and even kitchen ware."

And how strangely at variance is Mr. Bennett's opinion with that of Sir Herbert Holt who reports: "There can be no doubt that the abnormal credit conditions during 1928 and 1929 must be held primarily responsible for initiating the world-wide depression. High money rates had their inevitable effect of depressing business and paralyzing development. . . ."

And Mr. C. E. Neill, Vice-President and Managing Director of the Royal Bank, says:

"This year the primary difficulties with which the country is confronted are world-wide in character and find their origin in disruption of the international financial structure. It would seem the outstanding cause of the present world-wide depression was high interest rates during 1928 and 1929."

Those Impressive Election Stories

But of course these bankers and economists must be wrong. Mr. Bennett says our troubles are due to speculation. What a strangely different story to that told us during the election campaign. Do we not recollect the impressive and convincing manner in which he spoke of the low prices of butter, of sheep, of wool, of grain and how all this would be remedied if he were elected. He does not admit that our troubles may be due to high tariffs that have disrupted world trade, nor to a wrong monetary policy, nor to high freight rates, nor to high interest rates. No, speculation is the cause.

Play that tune on your drills, Mr. Farmer, as you sow a crop. Sing that refrain, Mrs. Farmer, as you sell your butter for fifteen cents a pound and your eggs for ten cents a dozen. Hum that musical comfort as you drive your hogs to market at present prices. But be sure when you sing the air, to use the word "speculation" in the large and broad sense in which the term should be employed.

If perchance your "ardor may have been dampened for a moment" (the words are Mr. Bennett's) "this will not retard you in your advance. . . . It will set you back temporarily but it will strengthen your courage," these words also being Mr. Bennett's.

In all his long speech not a word of the future, not a sentence informing the country of hope for better markets, of action taken to ensure better and steadier prices. It was well described by Miss Macphail as an "exceedingly unwise speech and one which he will bitterly regret," and as the lady member spoke, Mr. Bennett smiled and his followers smiled and were as Tennyson's Lotus Eaters. I paraphrase the poem to fit the moment:

"And yet like lotus eaters in their golden world
Where they smile in secret looking over wasted lands,
But they smile—they find a music centred in a doleful song
Streaming up—a lamentation and an ancient tale of wrong,
Like a tale of little meaning, though the words are strong;
Chanted from an ill used race of men that cleave the soil,
Sow the seed, and reap the harvest with enduring toil,
Till they perish and they suffer—some 'tis whispered—down in Hell."

Immediate Action in National Emergency Urged in U.F.A.-Labor Motion

Text of Sub-Amendment Which Failed to Carry by Only 31 Votes

On April 20th, Robert Gardiner, M.P., chairman of the U.F.A. and Farmer group, moved the following sub-amendment, seconded by A. A. Heaps, of the Labor group, to the address in reply to the speech from the throne:

That "this House fully realizes that there exists in Canada an economic situation which constitutes a national emergency, which can only be met by extraordinary measures;

"This House is of the opinion that the present situation calls for the greatest possible degree of co-operation on the part of all its members, and to that end, and that this co-operation may be given in the most practical and efficient manner, Your Excellency's advisers should give consideration to the appointment of a special committee of Parliament, to which committee would be assigned the duty of examining into the causes and extent of the present depression, with the view of suggesting such appropriate action as might best correct the present situation and relieve present suffering, and as might also render less probable the recurrence of such disasters in the future;

"This House urges that the need is great and immediate, and that this committee should be appointed without delay, that it be given all necessary powers and authority, and that it be instructed to proceed with all expedition and to report to this House during the present session of Parliament;

"While the above suggested action should assist in the ultimate solution of these great problems, this House realizes that there are conditions in this country which require more immediate consideration, and to this end this House is of the opinion,

(a) "That the failure or inability of our banks to provide the credit which is essential to our farmers in respect to their spring operations, render it imperative that consideration be given to some system of Federal assistance, whether directly, by way of bank guarantee, or otherwise;

(b) "That the serious situation which still prevails in respect of unemployment demands that consideration be given to some immediate action looking towards increased employment, and a further measure of direct relief where such is found necessary."

In moving the sub-amendment, at the close of a speech in which he reviewed the situation in the West and the problems facing agriculture in particular, Mr. Gardiner stated that the time had come for co-operation in the solving of these problems. He moved the sub-amendment because he believed that the amendment of the opposition was "negative in character." It was desired to seek positive measures to deal with the present national emergency.

The U.F.A.-Labor sub-amendment was defeated on April 21st, by 113 votes to 82, a majority against of 31; the Liberal amendment being subsequently defeated by 116 votes to 73, a majority against of 43. Most of the U.F.A. members abstained from voting on this opposition amendment, on account of its negative character. The main (Government) mo-

tion was then agreed to by 111 votes to 77, a majority of 34.

U.F.A. Members' Part in Debate

The contribution made to the debate on the address by members of the independent groups (U.F.A., other Farmer members, and Labor) was an outstanding one. Clearly and forcefully revealing actual conditions now existing among the farm people and working people, these representatives made a valiant fight which cannot fail of ultimate effect in behalf of the many thousands of Canadians who are the chief sufferers in the present financial disaster.

Mr. Garland, describing Mr. Bennett's speech, deals with one of the most amazing episodes in Canadian Parliamentary history, and Mrs. Spencer, in her article on page 12, quotes with unavoidable brevity significant passages from Alberta members' speeches. We regret that severe space limitations make it impossible for us to lay before our readers further information upon the record of their representatives which it is of the utmost importance they should possess. Two fragmentary quotations, however, are given below:

In reply to the general criticism that farmers "should have known the slump was coming," D. M. Kennedy, M.P., quoted the optimistic predictions in 1929 of the presidents of Canada's principal banks, including Sir Charles Gordon, president of the Bank of Montreal, who as recently as December 2nd, 1929, declared: "Fundamentally conditions are sound," and Sir Herbert Holt, President of the Bank of Montreal, who in January, 1929, stated: "The most pressing problem of the country is the need for more population if the present good times are to continue; there is need for more farmers on the soil and more men in the mines and factories in order that we shall consume a larger proportion of our products."

Mr. Luchkovich congratulated Mr. Weir, Minister of Agriculture, on having spoken so freely in criticism of the banks, and predicted that if the banks continued to refuse credit, they would wake up some morning and find the Canadian people rising in their wrath, and placing control where it belongs—in the hands of the nation.

A National Question

"A readjustment of a nation's internal money is a matter for that nation alone, and . . . to await international action is merely to postpone indefinitely any proper solution of the money problem."—C. M. H., in *The New Age*.

"How much the financier understands his real business—the distribution of wealth—the state of the world is sufficient witness."—Professor Frederick Soddy, in *The Inversion of Science*.

"Revolutions are made by those who fear them most."—Dr. E. J. Dillon.

News from Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Information for Members and Locals Issued by the Department of Education and Publicity of the Alberta Wheat Pool

James Murray, general manager of the Alberta Pacific Grain Company, has a solution all his own for straightening out of farmers' minds and attitude **DOESN'T LIKE** towards the Winnipeg Grain Exchange **FARM LEADERS** and futures market. Mr. Murray would get rid of the farm leaders of Western Canada, preferably we infer by extermination.

Before the Royal Grain Enquiry Commission, headed by Sir Josiah Stamp, Mr. Murray outlined his plan. He was the star witness for the grain trade in the sitting at Calgary on April 18. His program was:

No curtailment of speculation.

No restrictive measures applied to the Grain Exchange.

No appointment of an official observer with sufficient authority to find out what is going on in the Exchange.

The getting rid of farm leaders in order that farmers' minds may become chastened and their attitude become more friendly to the Exchange.

The Exchange members are wonderful fellows, the witness said, honest, conscientious and above board in all their dealings. He vouched for the fact that they never collaborated to "rig the market." He had worked in the pit and knew positively this could not be done. If a little clique tried it they would lose their bankroll. One of them might give the others the "run around" in order to make a clean-up himself.

When Chief Justice Brown pointed out the inconsistency of so high-souled and honorable men stooping to do such a trick, Murray acknowledged they were just like other men!

But Mr. Murray was firm that nothing should be done about the Grain Exchange. Farmers who suspicion things and rail against the institution are short-sighted and badly-led. He had been with the United Grain Growers for years and later with the Alberta Pacific. Never a mention by Mr. Murray as to his being secretary of the Grain Exchange until Chief Justice Brown made him admit it, and then he passed it off casually. Oh, yes, he had accepted the position temporarily when Dr. Magill had died. He held it until Jim Stewart lost out with the Alberta Pacific Grain Company and then stepped into Stewart's shoes. The \$15,000 secretaryship was a casual transient job, apparently, until something better turned up.

Yes, said James Murray, the Grain Exchange is okay and future trading is okay. The trouble is that those who didn't take advantage of it, should have done so. Now if HE had been running the Pool in 1929 he would have had the whole works on the future market.

Strange to say Mr. Murray didn't outline his own activities that year, he having been with another grain company. The next witness, M. H. Ward, of Arrowwood, pointed out the report of the grain company (of which Mr. Murray had been manager) for the same year showed considerable grain had been carried unhedged for a period extending over several months. Not a word from James about that. But of course he must get his dig in at the Pool while on the witness stand and what a wonderful opportunity he had.

In fact James Murray is a very smart man. He is a clever man. He could even turn the laugh on the friendly and unassuming Sir Josiah Stamp! Nobody is putting anything over on Jim Murray. No siree! Positive on everything and cagey!

He just wished the Wheat Board had been continued another year so Western Canadian farmers could have seen the consequences!

As for the Grain Exchange, its members are pure as the riven snow, according to Mister Murray. Halos should adorn their heads and the farm population should fall down and worship!

But farm leaders! Anathema and maranatha! Out they go neck and cropl. Agitators and trouble-makers and undesirable citizens. Jim Murray, erstwhile U.G.G. manager, erstwhile Grain Exchange secretary, now general manager of the Alberta Pacific Grain Company, wants none of them.

Hugh up on the dais, Sanford Evans, commissioner representing the Grain Trade, teeters in his chair, nods understandingly. He folds up his charts and figures used to confound and bewilder farmer witnesses. He smiles!

Sir Josiah Stamp looks interested and impressed. Here is an authority. He knows whereof he speaks. He jots down a note. Maybe it is: "Exterminate farm leaders."

Isaac Pitblado, grain trade lawyer, is in rare good humor. The fortunes of the day are changing. The simple farmer witnesses had been confused and confounded. The day is won.

Murray is through on the witness stand. With a triumphant smile he receives the acclaim of the grain trade section of the audience. He proceeds to the door and is surrounded by a congratulatory grain trade representation. He nods, whispers, laughs and shakes hands. He has told them! He has fixed the Pool, he has opened the way for a return of the Grain Trade of Western Canada to the throne.

* * *

An occasional letter is coming in to the Alberta Wheat Pool enquiring as to the attitude of the board of directors in regard to the matter of an one hundred per cent pool by legislation, which question is **DIRECTORS' ATTITUDE** receiving considerable publicity **ON LEGISLATIVE POOL** at the present time. These letters have been brought to the attention of the directors, and in order to clarify the situation, the directors have issued for the information of Pool members and the general public, statement as follows:

In accordance with the instructions of the delegates as a result of a resolution passed at the last annual meeting (November, 1930) of Wheat Pool delegates, a ballot containing the words:

Are you in favor of an one hundred per cent pool by legislation—Yes or No?

will be sent to each Pool member between July 1st and 15th next. Each member will then have an opportunity to register his or her opinion in regard to this important question in a manner strictly in accord with the democratic principles on which the Pool movement is founded. The result of the vote will be a guide to the Pool delegates when they meet again in general convention. It is therefore important that every Pool member should vote "yes" or "no" on the question as his or her judgment dictates.

The question is clearly one which is entirely outside the routine administration of the Alberta Wheat Pool, as defined in its act of incorporation and by-laws. Furthermore, the directors have been given no mandate to propagate either side of the question. They have instructed the Pool management to supply, on the request of any individual, such literature as may be available on either or both sides of the question and these instructions are being carried out in a strictly impartial manner. It is obvious there are two sides to this question, and so far as the board of directors is concerned, no influence is being brought to bear in support of either side.

The Alberta Wheat Pool, as at present constituted, is operated on a strictly voluntary contract basis. The directors have been elected to administer such form of organization and under these circumstances have a definite responsibility to the contract signers to direct the affairs of the present organization along lines of a voluntary contract pool to the very best of their ability. At no time have the elected delegates, representing the governing body of the Alberta voluntary contract Wheat Pool, expressed themselves in favor of an one hundred per cent legislative pool.

While many disappointments have been encountered by the wheat producers of Western Canada during the past eighteen months, the Board of Directors feel that real progress has been made since the Alberta Pool was first developed and that the farmers have much to their credit in the development of such organization.

It is quite possible that the next five year period will see changes in development little anticipated at the present time. In order that the growers' interests may be adequately protected, it is felt that farmer organizations such as the Wheat Pool should be maintained in a strong healthy condition and administered along sound business lines; otherwise it is felt the interests of the producers in Western Canada may not receive the favorable consideration that they are properly entitled to.

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Royal Grain Enquiry Commission

Calgary Sittings—U.F.A. Attitude Outlined

At the Calgary sittings of the Royal Grain Enquiry Commission a busy day was spent in listening to evidence. Norman F. Priestley, Vice-President of the United Farmers of Alberta, presented a written statement, a full copy of which is herewith attached. This statement outlined the attitude of members and associates of the U.F.A. towards the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and the futures market.

F. D. Brown, a farmer of the Acme district, expressed the opinion that a farmer has as good a chance sitting in a game of poker and gets more kick for his money as compared to gambling in grain futures.

John Gillespie, grain dealer of Edmonton, advocated establishment of a separate futures market based on Vancouver deliveries, maintaining that present market does not protect elevator companies.

Colonel C. W. Robinson said farmers had a strong feeling against tremendous gambling in wheat options. He said the law forbade gambling in almost every form but permitted the practice unhindered on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. This feverish gambling, in his opinion, had a detrimental effect on the price received by the farmers for their product.

Thor Brown, Claresholm, gave his opinion that violent fluctuations in wheat prices were due to speculation in grain.

James Murray, manager of the Alberta Pacific Grain Company, said the futures market was a decided benefit to producers. He thought the farmers who protested against the presence of speculation were misled and the only improvement he could suggest was getting rid of farm leaders who kept harping about the grain exchange evils at farmer meetings. Mr. Murray suggested an enquiry into Wheat Pool and grain trade systems of marketing Canada's crop to determine which returned the greater price to the producer. He said the Winnipeg market could not be manipulated.

M. H. Ward of Arrowwood, F. F. McNeil of Rumsey, and George Huser of Crossfield, also gave evidence.

Vice-President Makes Statement

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

I have the honor to represent before this Commission a large body of farmers, the United Farmers of Alberta. This organization was formed twenty-two years ago by the amalgamation of two previously existing bodies, which had covered large sections of the Province for some years.

The active membership of the United Farmers stood on December 31st, 1930, at 18,105. This membership, together with that of the various co-operative commercial organizations which have developed within the United Farmer movement, aggregates more than 50,000 individuals engaged in agriculture.

The Case in Brief

Respecting the question under investigation we submit:—

1. That among the farmers as such the view is almost universal that the system of trading in futures operates to their detriment.

2. That if the Western Canadian agricultural community, dependent so greatly as it is upon the prosperity of the grain growing farmer, is to be enabled to meet export conditions intelligently and successfully, the right of the Grain Exchange and its concomitant system of trading in futures to function as a marketing agency of Canadian wheat must be demonstrated. Its operation must be brought to the light of day, and such measures must then be taken as the facts shall show to be necessary. At present we cannot get the facts.

3. That legislation should be enacted giving to a public body the right to inspect and record each transaction of each individual trading on or through the Exchange, to the end that a thorough examination of the results of the system may demonstrate either that it is sound or that it is unsound, and make possible the elimination of such abuses as may be disclosed.

We submit further:

4. That as citizens in general we are concerned with the demoralization resulting from the widely extended practice of trading in futures, a form of gambling to which we are peculiarly susceptible on account of the predominance of grain growing and grain marketing in the economic life of our people.

The United Farmers of Alberta have advocated and urged for many years, at district and annual Provincial Conventions, the investigation of the Grain Exchange and of speculation in wheat futures. In January last, 516 delegates from all parts of the Province passed with complete unanimity a resolution here appended, calling upon Parliament to investigate speculation in grain, with a view to abolishing all marginal dealings not represented by real grain; and another resolution, also appended, was passed by the Board of Directors to whom it had been referred by the Convention, stating that any benefits which might accrue from the operation of the futures market are impaired to producers by abuse of the privileges provided by the Grain Exchange, and asking specifically for a Royal Commission to investigate all matters concerning the Exchange.

We believe that more direct and better methods of taking our annual crop of two to four hundred million bushels of wheat to world markets can be found. This belief found expression at our Annual Convention in January last in the following resolution:

"Whereas, the present price of wheat is far below the cost of production, and

"Whereas a continuation of such condition will inevitably mean a lower standard of living for agriculture, and

"Whereas no benefit of the low price is being passed on to the consumer in the way of cheaper bread;

"Therefore, be it resolved, that an International Conference be called, representative of all wheat exporting

countries, with the aim of stabilizing the producing of and the export price for wheat, to enable the grower to meet the cost of production and obtain a reasonable profit, and

"Further, be it resolved, that Canada, through her Prime Minister, be the convener of such conference, which should be called at the earliest possible date."

We are seeking a rational basis for the operation of our great agricultural industry, and hope that the enquiries and findings of this Royal Commission will assist us to that end.

Attached herewith is an amplification of the ideas in the foregoing statement, which we submit for your consideration.

Addendum to Statement

Ever since grain and especially wheat began to be produced in such quantity in Western Canada as to require other markets than that provided by the new settlers then filling up the country, the business of wheat marketing has been enveloped in a veil of mystery behind which thousands of intelligent farmers have tried in vain to obtain a view of the facts. One fact has definitely emerged: the system makes large profits for certain elements operating within it.

Farmers as producers of wheat, not as shareholders in grain companies, not as individuals who have made profits by speculation in wheat, but farmers as such, have held strongly to the opinion for many years that the Exchange has not functioned to their advantage. We are not concerned here with the academic question as to whether buyers of real grain or flour millers, for instance, could do without the Grain Exchange or futures market; whether capital enough could be found to buy the annual output of our farms within a few weeks or months of harvest; or storage facilities be provided, or continuity of supply guaranteed; or whether the buyers of real wheat, particularly the larger millers, could insure themselves against loss on account of, or in the case of, a falling market. We are concerned chiefly with the fact that wheat, the major item of production in the life of two and a half million people in Western Canada, has become involved in a complex system, in which gambling is a prominent feature, to such an extent that producers, considered either singly or in great organized groups, cannot carry on their operations intelligently.

Seek Rational System

We are seeking to develop a rational system. Producers of wheat and other farm produce desire security in their business. A sense of security and well-being is impossible while operating in the production of a commodity subject to such violent and extreme fluctuations in price as is wheat under the present system of marketing.

Farmers in Alberta are intelligent. Their power to set up and maintain organizations has demonstrated that over more than a quarter of a century. They wish to conduct all their affairs in an intelligent and orderly manner. In nothing is this desire more manifest than in the marketing of their chief product,

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wheat. Their efforts have so far been rendered more or less ineffectual because they find themselves involved in a system which is without directive mind, and which appears to function only towards confusion.

While on occasions they have been borne to the crest of the prosperity wave along with this system, looking back over the years they find that they have spent much more time in the trough of poverty. Rightly or wrongly they maintain that a system which provides for the erection of expensive buildings in many cities, sustains luxurious brokerage offices and creates many millionaires, is conducted at their expense. They believe that "paper wheat" has too much influence on the price of real wheat.

They have been encouraged in that belief by such writers as R. W. Barnett in Palgrave's "Dictionary of Political Economy" who states:

"It has been urged that the sale of futures has a direct effect upon prices equal at least to that of a large increase of supply, and has, in the case of wheat at least, caused a prolonged depression of price beyond the minimum cost of production." (Vol. 11, p. 175).

They have thought such statements as the following from no less an authority than a former president of the Liverpool Corn Trade Association (John H. Hubback, Enc. Brit. XIII, Vol. 11, p. 254), to be of significance, and applicable to Winnipeg and Canada:

"At Chicago the trade is in contracts for future delivery and it is not surprising that this business in contracts should annually reach an aggregate far exceeding the United States yearly wheat crop."

Would Sit at Bargain Table

The farmers would like to sit at the bargain table with other producers of real wheat and discuss business with the people who are making their wheat into flour, with those who are making that flour into bread, those who are distributing that flour and bread, and with the consumers of bread. When such a conference is made possible, they will be able to take steps so to organize production that their returns from similar labor and expenditure of capital will not fluctuate from one year to another to the extent of several hundred per cent.

There is another phase of this question which may or may not be considered germane to the objects of this enquiry, i.e., the fact that many farmers themselves engage in future trading.

The intense interest of the farming community of Western Canada in the marketing of their wheat is easily to be understood when we consider that it is the basic industry, supporting the two and one-half million people of the three Prairie Provinces. The elevator, the physical embodiment of the wheat marketing business, stands out on every horizon. Wheat is an ever present factor in the thought of the people. There are 5,787 elevators in Western Canada. In Alberta alone there are 1,707 elevators.

The value of agricultural production in 1927, the latest year for which figures are given in the official "Canada Year Book," are as follows:

Manitoba.....	\$ 98,622,000
Saskatchewan.....	364,628,000
Alberta.....	300,875,000

What proportion of agricultural production is strictly grain marketing I am

not in a position to say, but have reason to believe that it is very large.

Vast Losses in Speculation

The newspapers of our Province have more to say about wheat at certain seasons of the year than about any other aspect of our life. In some instances quotations of wheat futures appear next to the title on the front page of every issue. The price of wheat, particularly when a good crop is in sight, is the most engrossing thought to tens of thousands of our people. It is therefore not to be wondered at that they should be intrigued with the idea of making money on the grain exchange. Fighting from year to year against insect pests, drought, hail, frost and in some cases too much rain and snow, many farmers have come to regard wheat growing as in the nature of a gamble. Seeing men making profit and in some instances becoming rich in wheat speculation, many are inclined to cease attempting to discriminate between what they consider to be two forms of gambling. A survey of the Province conducted a few months ago showed that between one hundred and one hundred and fifty-five million dollars had been lost by the people of Alberta, urban and rural, by speculating in wheat futures during the twelve months preceding June, 1930. Individual losses ran all the way from \$168,000 down. In some instances it was reported that farmers had lost everything, land, crop, equipment. Local bankers have stated in many instances that losses in their communities have ranged above \$100,000. An estimate of the losses in the district tributary to one of our best Southern Alberta towns exceeds a million and a quarter dollars. On one section of railway less than 90 miles, the losses in a very sparsely settled district amounted to \$300,000.

The natural desire of the grain growers, and for that matter almost the whole of the Western Canadian community, for a higher price for wheat, causes them to speculate for a rise. Sudden drops brought about by bearish influences which if they exist in rural communities have never yet been discovered, have drained us of enormous sums of money and have played no small part in bringing agriculture to the ruinous condition which now obtains.

Thinking farmers in Alberta, and Western Canada in general, have long believed that behind the apparently blind functioning of the grain exchange there are frequently at work influences calculating the making of huge profits out of price fluctuations. They have had reason to suspect that a psychology of prosperity with its high prices for primary products has been deliberately encouraged; and that, at times favorable to the interests of the manipulators, the market has been suddenly forced down in order to "make a killing" for these interests, who do so by turning suddenly from "bulls" to "bears."

An outstanding instance of a rapid and demoralizing decline is that of the spring of 1925, when quotations on No. 1 Northern descended in about one month from \$2.20 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$1.35.

Influence of Gambling

Prices on the Exchange are said to be governed by world crop conditions, i.e., by the law of supply and demand. There is little if any genuine doubt that the speculative elements, the gamblers on the Exchange, frequently and over long periods exercise a greater influence. A leading authority on this subject has been

(Continued on opposite page)

Letter from Wheat Pool Manager

Dealing with Pool Payment Situation

R. D. Purdy, Manager of the Alberta Wheat Pool has issued the following circular dealing with the distribution of Future Pool Payments:

We are receiving numerous enquiries from Pool members, especially those who delivered their wheat on basis 50c Initial Payment, as to the possibility of a payment being distributed this spring to assist them with spring seeding operations, and no doubt our Agents are also receiving enquiries from day to day in this connection.

1930 Deliveries

Insofar as 1930 deliveries are concerned, as no doubt you are aware, our Initial Payment for the month of August was based on 70c One Northern in store Vancouver, and latter part of August, such was reduced to 60c, which continued in effect until quite late last fall, and then reduced to 55c and latterly to 50c. A very large volume of our deliveries was accepted from Pool members on basis 60c, and in view of the fact that for the past four months market levels have fluctuated as between 50 and 60 cents, we believe you will appreciate the fact that we are not in position to even give assurance that a further distribution is going to be made, especially having in mind, as previously indicated, that a very large volume of such grain was adjusted for to our growers on basis of 60c. Further, our Central Selling Agency has a large volume of 1930 crop still to be marketed and a great deal depends on the selling level of such wheat as to just how our 1930 Pool results will work out.

As pointed out in some of our previous circulars, any Initial Payment made by the Pool on any wheat, or even subsequent payments, are merely advances pending ultimate sale and all wheat delivered of the same grade to the same pool year receives exactly the same return based on sales averaged over the season when our entire volume delivered to any pool year has been disposed of and final adjustment made.

No doubt a considerable number of our Pool members have been disappointed in receiving settlement on reduced Initial Payment basis on deliveries to 1930 Pool during the past four months, but such could not be avoided owing to depression in selling values, and as previously explained, in the final adjustment all members will be accounted to on the same basis for respective grades delivered based on selling results over the season.

1928 Pool

In regard to final accounting on deliveries to 1928 Pool, and also 1929 Pool, our proposed manner of handling same has not been changed as outlined in Circular No. 54, dated December 9th last, and as submitted to our Annual Meeting of Delegates last November. Our Central Selling Agency still have some considerable bushelage of 1929 crop to be marketed, and until this is finally disposed of, we are not in position to submit figures to our members as to overpayment involved on 1929 deliveries, or to account to our members for any Final Payment on 1928 Pool deliveries.

We fully appreciate the fact that our Pool members are desirous of obtaining

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proceeds of their grain at just as early a date each year as possible, and to the very best of our ability we are endeavoring to administer the affairs of the Pool along these lines, but in view of exceptional marketing conditions which have prevailed for the last few months, usual distributions have been impossible, and to any Pool member who has given this general situation consideration, we believe the reasons for our position should be apparent.

Regretting that we are unable to give any indication at this date as to the amount or date of any subsequent payments on 1930 deliveries for reasons outlined herein, and trusting this further explanation may be of some assistance to you in dealing with any enquiries made by Pool members.

ROYAL GRAIN ENQUIRY COMMISSION

(Continued from opposite page)

quoted to the effect that as the result of a study of the major transactions of the 1926 wheat future, the administration of the Grain Futures Act of the United States was led to the conclusion that without the accumulation of long or short lines of millions of bushels by a very few leading speculators the major swings in the prices would not have been so large. It was stated that particularly pronounced is the relation of price to the market position of the leading speculators on the days on which net purchases or sales of large proportions occurred, and that it was by no means a coincidence that the price and net trade moved in the same direction on 24 out of the 28 of these individual days on which the net trading of the five leading speculators aggregated 2,000,000 bushels or more. (J. W. T. Duvel, U.S. Grain Futures Administrator). In other words, the price which the farmer receives for his product is not the measure of its value to the consuming public, but the result of the operation of a system which has no regard whatever to his equities.

It is for these reasons among others that for thirty years the farmers of Western Canada have regarded speculation in wheat generally and the activities of the Grain Exchange with its apparently inevitable accompaniments in particular, as being unfriendly to themselves. Their convictions along these lines have been strengthened in many ways. When, for instance, a large body of farmers organized a company, "The Grain Growers Grain Company" in 1906, they were bitterly opposed by the Grain Trade, whose opposition found expression, among other ways, in denying them a seat on the Grain Exchange. Not until the Government of Manitoba interposed was the right of the farmers to a seat on the Exchange conceded. In later years they had the experience of having the Dominion Government, through its wartime Board of Grain Supervisors and the Canada Wheat Board, handle three successive crops of the entire Dominion, and witnessed the disastrous decline of wheat prices which followed the withdrawal of that control in 1920 when the Grain Exchange was again allowed to operate and the open futures market re-established. The idea of "orderly marketing" gained ground, a conception obviously in contrast to the conditions then prevailing.

The efforts of the farmers to form a co-operative marketing organization of their own, the Provincial and Canadian

Wheat Pools, met with great resistance from members of the Exchange. The obvious interest of the opponents of the Pool in maintaining this marketing machinery for their own use has naturally been weighed against the protestations of the Grain Trade that the law of supply and demand, with its corollary, the futures market, must be given free rein.

Farmers have concluded that the feverish interest of speculators in futures accounts to a great degree for the eagerness with which crop reports are compiled and read and have many times over the years watched a good crop maturing in the field and read news items in the press about bumper yields and at the same time of declining price. Rightly or wrongly they have deduced that the price decline, which has robbed them of financial returns anticipated on the basis of previous price quotations, was brought about not so much by a contraction of demand on the part of the buyers due to the possibility of a world surplus with resultant low prices, but by the operation of the speculative element in the futures market.

Convictions on the part of the producers that the system of trading in futures acts to their detriment, as previously stated, have not been verifiable. We have found, however, that we in Canada are not alone in our distrust of and desire to curb or get rid of this system. Producers in the United States are discovered to have similar distrust and desires. They have moved effectively and now have the Grain Futures Act. They also have their Wheat Stabilization Board.

This present enquiry has been instituted by the Government of Canada in response to frequent urgings over the years. The following are the resolutions referred to in the opening paragraphs of this memorandum:

INVESTIGATION IN GRAIN SPECULATION

"Whereas, we consider the grain exchanges in their present form have a detrimental effect for the producer in the marketing of his grain;

"Be it resolved, that we request Parliament to institute a thorough investigation into the speculation in grain with a view to abolishing all marginal dealings not represented by actual grain."—Passed by the United Farmers of Alberta, Annual Convention, Calgary, January 20-23, 1931.

INSPECTING GRAIN BROKERS' BOOKS

"Whereas, the market quotations of the price of Canadian Wheat on the Liverpool Corn Exchange remain steady from day to day and often from week to week without fluctuating more than one or two cents either way; and

"Whereas, we believe that the excessive fluctuations, often amounting to several cents in one day, in the price of wheat on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange are caused, largely, by the manipulation of speculators, and

"Whereas, the Grain Exchange should be considered in the light of a 'Public Utility' and we believe the benefits of the futures markets are being impaired to the producer by the abuse of the privileges provided by the Grain Exchange;

"Therefore be it resolved, that we request the Government to set up a committee of the House of Commons or a Royal Commission to investigate all matters concerning the Grain Exchange."—United Farmers of Alberta Convention

resolution referred to Board of Directors. Passed by the Board of Directors, January 26th, 1931.

It is the hope of the farmers of Alberta, expressed through their farm organization, that this Commission will take away the cloak of mystery from the operations of our grain marketing system and disclose the real facts. It is their hope also that should it be found desirable in view of the nature of grain marketing in other parts of the world, if by any chance their desire for one national agency whether under producer or state control, be not attained, that provision will be made to compel the making of regular records and reports of the operations of the Exchange and that some effective curb will be placed upon trading in futures such as will make possible intelligent and profitable operation in the business of producing and marketing grain.

We do not pretend to be able to give answer to the question before this Commission. The effect of futures trading on the price paid to the producer we believe to be detrimental. But we have no positive proof—there can be no proof so long as the operations of the Exchange remain enshrouded in mystery. For the two principal reasons adduced, however: first, that the mystery surrounding grain marketing renders intelligent action by the producers in the regulating and conducting of their business practically impossible; second, that the futures market provides an incentive to a form of gambling on such a wide scale that it threatens the stability of the economic structure of all Western Canada, we urge, therefore, that legislative means be provided for full and complete scrutiny on the part of the Governments and interested members of the public of Grain Exchange operations

All of which is respectfully submitted.

NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY, Vice-President, United Farmers of Alberta.

Roger Babson, eminent economist, who predicted the big stock market crash of October, 1929, now has an encouraging word for agriculture. He is quoted as saying: "The farmer, in 1931, will have the benefits of better organization. He will collect one big dividend from the depression; he will come out of it with one great lesson learned. That is, that he can do nothing alone."

ASKS FOR WHEAT BOARD

The Manitoba Legislature, by a unanimous vote passed a resolution asking the Dominion Government to establish a wheat board similar to that which operated in 1919. The resolution passed by the Legislature reads as follows:

"Resolved, that the Provincial Government, and if possible in co-operation with the Provincial Governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan, urge the Dominion Government, in conjunction with the Governments of the Prairie Provinces to create a grain board to handle the 1931-1932 crop to the best advantage of western agriculture, keeping in mind the actual cost of production, and to insure a price commensurate with such cost of production."

It was moved by I. B. Griffiths, Government member for Russell, who urged a number of reasons for having a wheat board among which were: that it would establish business confidence throughout the country; that the Dominion Government could finance the movement of the

(Continued on page 16)

Interests of the United Farm Women

Parliament Hears of Western Farm Conditions

Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Farm Women:

There are a few of you, no doubt, who have opportunity and time to follow *Hansard*. If so, you will see that the Westerners have not been backward in putting on record the facts regarding the conditions on the Prairies. There has been a general unanimity from all sides of the House as to the conditions there except from Mr. Turnbull of Regina, and a few others. You may remember he defeated Mr. Dunning. In the course of his remarks he said: "There is no doubt that conditions in Western Canada are not as good as they might be, but it is also true they are not as bad as they might be either, and they are far from being as bad as hon. friends have been painting them. They are bad in spots, it is true. As someone remarked 'The patient was broken out in a rash'."

Going over the various speeches, one finds so much partizanship, so much repetition, that the chaff seems to exceed the kernels of grain, but here and there one does find bits that are of much interest and of much worth. Mr. McPhee of Yorkton, for instance, quotes one very fine little bit from an address delivered by the head of a great Swedish Match Company which operates in Poland, Peru, Greece, Ecuador, Estonia, and many other countries of the world. The quotation reads: "Nations will remain nations, but the minds of men are broadening to an international horizon. In this machine age, national markets are not enough. How are buyers gained? Do we win customers by blows and abuse, or by smiles and little acts of friendly service? Yet nations must act precisely as individuals act if they are to achieve fruitful results."

Need for International Co-operation

Miss Macphail made a splendid speech. In referring to the last election and promises given by the present Prime Minister, she said that we live in a day of high powered salesmanship, the public had fallen under the spell, and trade was now down to 26 per cent. Agriculture particularly, and trade generally seem to be tobogganing towards a sea of disaster. Instead of building on nationalism, international co-operation was much more needed. We talk a good deal about labor saving, she said, but we were now in the age of labor displacing through the help of machines. She stressed the insufficiency of credit and currency to purchase goods, and spoke of what might be termed the curse of plenty. In finishing her remarks, Miss Macphail advocated the teaching of co-operation, the processing of farm products by farmer controlled associations, the need of loans on long terms and at low rates of interest, and recommended modernizing finance.

Since Miss Macphail sent her article, the following members have spoken in the House from what is known as "Our Corner": Messrs. Speakman, Luchko-

vich, Lucas, Campbell, Kennedy, Irvine, Heaps, Carmichael, Gardiner and Garland. All the speeches were of high standard, and I would like to write about each, but owing to lack of space I shall be forced to refer only to our Alberta members.

Mr. Speakman said in part: "Not only are conditions bad, and we gain nothing by attempting to delude ourselves by a sort of imbecile optimism, but I have never seen the morale of the men in that section so low as it is today." His reference to the banks was published in the last issue of *The U.F.A.* He made a very excellent point in showing why Canadian bacon could not compete with that of Denmark, when he showed that the price paid for hogs to the producer in Canada was 5½c a pound against 40c a pound to the consumer, or a spread of 7 to 1, while in Denmark the farmer was receiving 7½c a pound, and bacon was selling at 22c, or a spread of 3 to 1.

In attempting to focus the attention of the House on the anomaly of poverty and plenty going hand in hand, he referred by way of illustration to the huge elevator in Calgary full of good wheat that could not be sold, while at the same time Calgary had put the unemployed on one meal a day because they could not purchase food for them.

Tariff Cannot Help

Mr. Luchkovich, in his speech, pointed out to the cabinet that agriculture could not be degraded and prosperity be maintained in the other industries. "If agriculture is to be fostered in Canada," he said, "it will not be done by tariff increases, which tend to stabilize the prices of manufactured goods at their present high level without a corresponding increase in the levels of prices of agricultural products. While it is true that the grain growing industry cannot be protected by any kind of tariff legislation, it does not follow that the other industries should be given a hand-out which ultimately will have to be paid out of the pockets of the Canadian farmers."

Crisis in Financial System

In trying to get even a short synopsis of the speeches I find so much good material that it is hard to know what to leave out. Mr. Lucas early in his remarks said: "We have been attaching too much importance to the question of tariffs." And later he referred to the fact that all countries have the same monetary and financial system, based largely on a gold standard. So it would seem that a greater study of this question by the House of Commons would bring about more useful results than spending so much time upon tariffs. Mr. Lucas quoted Lord D'Abernon, an English financier, who gives two causes for the present world depression, (1) a crisis in currency, and (2) a crisis in indebtedness, and then said: "We are living today under a debt-increasing system, a system

which is gradually becoming so top-heavy that in time it will break down of its own weight." And further: "There has never been a time in our history when industry and science have made such rapid strides as they are doing today, but there is a growing feeling that our credit and monetary systems are lagging behind."

In referring to Russia Mr. Lucas said: "Why should Canada sit back in a 'holier than thou' attitude and refuse to trade with Russia when all other countries in the world appear to be vying with one another to get that trade."

Fallacies Concerning Mixed Farming

When Mr. Kennedy addressed the House he spent some time in exploding certain fallacies concerning mixed farming. He showed how farmers who had gone into mixed farming had lost very heavily indeed in past years when prices were low or feed was exceedingly high. He also made reference to the "Duncan-Marshall fiasco" started some years ago in Alberta, known as the cow bill legislation. He asked the Government what they would do if the railways or any other business in Canada were affected in the serious way that agriculture suffers today. He gave some very interesting figures on the cost of selling a certain car of No. 4 wheat containing 1700 bushels, and showed that the freight paid on same amounted to \$262.73 while the farmer obtained even less, or \$209.70.

Irvine on Farmers' Position

Mr. Irvine dealt in a very comprehensive way with the subject of credit and financial reform. Of the condition of the Western farmers he said in part: "It is sometimes said that it is a strange thing that agriculture in the West could not stand one bad year. . . . The situation is not so difficult if we examine it carefully. Up to 1930 the farmers had been working from hand to mouth, as the saying goes. They had been burdened with more than their share of taxation through the tariff; they were burdened with a higher rate of interest than is charged anywhere else in Canada; they were burdened with a heavy freight rate both coming and going on all the business they had to do, and then, as now, they found themselves trying to sell wheat in a market that was really a dump market. They never had anything left over; and they had no resources upon which they could fall back when a year like 1930 came along, and the result was that when it did come along they were in a very poor position to meet it."

Gardiner Describes Alberta Conditions

Mr. Gardiner, speaking after Easter, gave a first-hand last minute picture of conditions as he saw them in Alberta during the recess, and again pointed out the discouraging conditions existing and that the people were losing their hope, their morale. In closing his speech he moved the sub-amendment which will no doubt be dealt with elsewhere in this issue.

Mr. Garland eloquently put forward the position of the coal-miners as well as our

farmers, while Mr. Coote also spoke again, especially in regard to the coal-miners.

Mr. Garland pointed out with reference to the London wheat conference that we must have some form of national wheat control before we can hope to bring about any measure of international control.

Yet despite all these word pictures, and all the facts set before the House, Mr. Bennett rose in his seat and berated the members who pointed out these depressing conditions and said there were tens of thousands of farmers with deposits of money in the bank. Later he went on to say: "If hon. members will take the trouble to investigate they will find that wherever men have had regard for economic laws and have kept free from speculation and wild dreams of sudden wealth they are happy and contented and have provided a good living for themselves and their families."

I am sure, after perusing the above, you will be proud of the men we have sent to Ottawa.

H. ZELLA SPENCER.

The U.F.A. Pattern Department

Send orders to The U.F.A. Pattern Department, Lougheed Building, Calgary, allowing ten days for receipt of pattern. Be sure to give name, address, size and number of pattern required. In some cases the customs office requires payment of seven cents duty on delivery.



7185. Girls' Dress.

Designed in Sizes 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. A 4 year size, with bolero and with the ruffling of material requires 2 1-8 yards 29 inches wide. Without bolero and ruffling 1 1/2 yard is required. To trim with ruffling of lace edging as illustrated requires 6 1/2 yards 1 1/2 inch wide. With bolero, and without ruffling 1 1/2 yard is required 29 inches wide. Price 15c.

7180. Ladies' Morning Frock.

Designed in Sizes: Small, 34-36; Medium, 38-40; Large, 42-44; Extra

Large, 46-48 inches bust measure. A medium size requires 3 1/4 yards of 35 inch material. For contrasting material 5-8 yard 35 inches wide is required. To finish with bias binding requires 7 yards 1 1/2 inch wide. Price 15c.

Seasonable Recipes By AUNT CORDELIA

Coffee Substitute: Run through the coffee mill 2 cups wheat and mix thoroughly with 2 tablespoons golden syrup or molasses. Spread thinly on a baking dish and put in a very slow oven to dry. Stir every half hour. When the mixture has quite dried, roll it out with a rolling pin and store in an airtight tin. 1 1/2 teaspoons stirred into a cup of boiling water or hot milk makes a palatable drink.

Carrot Pie: Mash 1 cup cooked carrots, add 1/2 cup white sugar, 2 eggs, 1 pint sweet milk, 2 tablespoons molasses, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/2 teaspoon ginger. Bake in pie crust.

THE COOK BOOK

Many commendations of the U.F.W.A. Cook Book have been received at Central Office. Mrs. Lydia Arlt, secretary of Granum U.F.W.A. writes: "I hope we are not too late with our order as we got some before and like them very much."

FARM WOMEN'S SHORT COURSES

Farm Women's Short Courses will be held this year at the Olds School of Agriculture in the third week of July, and at the Vermilion School of Agriculture beginning August 3rd. Those interested should make a note of the dates. Further particulars will be given later.

TRAVELLING CLINIC

The Provincial Travelling Baby Clinic will visit 153 centres during the summer's itinerary, which begins on April 20th, and will cover territory from Peace River to the southern boundary. In some cases, requests have come from the same communities in nine consecutive years, mothers recognizing the value of this annual medical inspection of pre-school children. During last year's service 2,618 children were examined, and it is expected that this number will be exceeded this season. The staff is being augmented by an assistant nurse.

Activities of the U.F.W.A.

Aunger U.F.W.A. at their meeting on April 8th put on a short program and a ten-cent tea, reports Mrs. Maud Pooley, secretary, a very pleasant afternoon resulting.

Mrs. C. McKinnon read a good paper on gardening and Mrs. Coonfer led a discussion on the best varieties of seed, at the April meeting of Dalemead U.F.W.A., reports Mrs. S. M. Newton, secretary, who was hostess on this occasion.

Whitla Excelsior U.F.W.A. staged a play in March entitled, "All a Mistake," which, writes Mrs. Marie Greenwalt, was a gratifying success in every way. Plans of this Local for cemetery improvement have been curtailed owing to the dry weather.

Mrs. W. McMahon, secretary of Crerar U.F.W.A. (at Killam) reports that a quilt contest

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CALGARY DRY GINGER ALE

A Finer Flavor for Finer Tastes

is being held in connection with the conference to be held at Battle Bend. Each Local represented will make a quilt, to be later donated to the Bethany Lodge Hostel.

Reading and discussion on H. E. Spencer's speech in Parliament on March 19th is planned by Tolland U.F.W.A. for their next meeting, writes Mrs. C. F. McGrath. This Local held a very successful concert, dance and sale of work recently.

Gibbons U.F.W.A. brought the play "Prairie Rose," put on by Sunnyside young people, to Gibbons Hall early in the spring, writes Mrs. L. M. Fraser, to the great enjoyment of those present. This Local is making a Red Cross layette, have other plans developing, and "are gaining a little enthusiasm."

A paper on peace, exchange of seeds and slips, a report of the Convention, and a paper on Bliss Carman, were enjoyable features of the last meeting of Milk River Energetic U.F.W.A., held at the home of Mrs. Albert Loft. Social and visiting committees for the second quarter were appointed, adds Mrs. Geo. Kuhl, secretary.

Mrs. F. W. Weber reports that Fairdonian Valley U.F.W.A. are working on several quilts to be given to various relief societies. At the meeting held at the home of Mrs. J. Aitcheson, the bulletin on co-operation was read, as well as a paper on Bliss Carman, by Mrs. Bearisto. A pianoforte duet by the Misses Aitcheson was much enjoyed.

Thirty-one tables of whist were played at the whist drive and calico dance held by Olds U.F.W.A. and U.F.A. Locals, writes Mrs. J. A. Dodd, Mrs. Chas. Yauch and N. S. Smith being the prize-winners. During the dance the attendance was swelled to about three hundred. The U.F.W.A. realized \$30 from a sale of food on April 4th.

"The following is a list of Leduc Local's accomplishments for the first three months of the year," writes Mrs. William Bolton, secretary. "We had three card parties which were successful both socially and financially; made a quilt and gave it to a burned out family; and gave two poor families in town flour, potatoes and a few groceries."

"The telling about thrilling moments in our lives produced great merriment," writes Mrs. Kitty Dakin, in reporting the April meeting of Waskatenau U.F.W.A., at the home of Mrs. F. Lunn. "The members were greatly pleased with the lecture by Dr. Margaret Owens." A discussion on community improvement and a contest put on by Mrs. Wm. Phillips concluded the program.

"The Adventures of Grandpa," presented at the Beddington U.F.A. Hall on March 20th, was "an excellent play, well rendered," reports Mrs. H. Bandrob, secretary of the U.F.W.A. Local. W. H. Evans played the leading role very successfully, the other parts being taken by Mrs. O. Short, Mrs. Hugh Bushfield, Gladys Barker, Helen Bushfield, A. J. Bushfield, Harold Bushfield, George Waite and Alice Greenbo. Mrs. Harold Bushfield directed, assisted by P. C. Lewis and Fred Baptie. Proceeds went towards the debt on the hall. The play was given again at Balzac, and later at Mount View Hall, the latter performance in aid of a family who lost their home by fire.

Recently Standard U.F.W.A. heard addresses from F. T. Cook, of the Department of Health, and Mrs. J. C. Buckley, writes Mrs. Frona Wirt, adding: "If any of us have been hesitating to pay our 1931 dues, I am certain we will not hesitate after listening to Mrs. Buckley's plea for paid-up membership. Earlier in the month the U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. met to listen to our

Provincial Vice-President, Mr. Priestley. Mr. Wheatley, Mr. Madsen and Mrs. N. P. Nielsen also spoke, and lunch and a social hour were enjoyed later." At the March meeting of this Local Mrs. Gregory gave a paper on St. Patrick, and a general discussion of the origin of the practice of celebrating Easter with eggs, the Easter rabbit, etc., took place at the April meeting.

"In spite of hard times our meetings are well attended," writes Mrs. J. Trotter, secretary of Morrin U.F.W.A. "The monthly bulletins are greatly appreciated. Our president is Mrs. A. Hodge, vice-presidents Mrs. Mary Brown and Mrs. H. High. Mrs. F. Dodd was our delegate to the Annual Convention and her splendid report was much enjoyed. We sent donations to the Red Cross Hospital at Calgary and the Salvation Army, also remembered our sick friends with flowers and fruit. Rowley, Munson and Morrin school districts are co-operating with the U.F.W.A. in an effort to have the Alberta Government Travelling Clinic visit this district during the summer. A baby clinic is to be held again this year, and we are looking forward to a basketry course. Six dozen Cook Books were sold, and the commission put into the flower fund."

Mrs. W. H. McKeever has written a summary of the interesting meetings held by Gleichen U.F.W.A. so far this year. "Resolved, that the introduction of machinery has done more harm than good" was debated by Mrs. Duncan McBean and Miss Goodwin; at a later meeting Mrs. Ellis read an interesting paper on collective farming in Russia, and its present and future effects on wheat prices. Delegates' reports were given at a joint meeting with the U.F.A., by Mrs. A. Thomas, Mrs. W. H. McKeever and R. P. Umbrite. Miss Bowen gave a paper on delinquent children and Mrs. McPhee a demonstration on hooked rugs at the February 19th meeting; while an article by Miss Agnes Macphail, M.P., on "Women and the Priesthood," and a paper on "Choosing a Career" by Mrs. Humphrey Parby (nee Miss Buckley), and a paper on the influence of the women's vote by Mrs. J. C. Buckley, were features of other meetings. The Local served supper following the address of Mr. Bevington; gave a tea in honor of Mrs. Sam Desjardine, who was leaving the district; and also arranged to honor Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Buckley, on their 47th wedding anniversary, when a beautifully decorated cake was made and presented by Mrs. A. F. Wilson and Mrs. H. H. Ellis.

U.F.A. Junior Activities

Watchword: SERVICE

Motto: EQUITY

Depression Should Stimulate Co-operation

Dear Juniors:

In view of the country-wide economic depression let us not allow our various Locals to be run accordingly. Depression should be a stimulant to co-operation. Let us, as the younger generation, adhere to co-operation, and thereby keep away from things which are only artificial and impracticable.

I suppose a great many Locals are not very hopeful of sending one or more delegates to the Young People's Week at Edmonton in June. Do not give up hope but try to raise funds with something like we had in my community. We put on a debate and program followed by a dance. Our subject for debate was on the Compulsory Pool question, and any Local can be assured of getting an audience to listen to such a live question. You can surely devise some kind of a money making scheme, so let us all endeavor to send as many delegates as possible, as it is very important.

I hope the Junior Local in your community is a place of education and entertainment, and if it is, you are on the right road; and may we, through the work we carry on as young people of the U.F.A., grow into a better educated, broader-minded, more co-operatively inclined future generation.

Yours sincerely,

CARL MALLETT,
President Hastings Coulee Junior
Local
Forestburg, Alta.

Junior News Items

At the April 7th meeting of the Bar Harbor Hustlers, Leland Fisher was chosen as delegate to the Junior Conference.

Abec Junior Local held a social evening in the Community Hall on March 17th. A play by

Misses Martha and Helen Hendrickson was much enjoyed, as were songs and recitations.

After the March 21st meeting of the Cando Junior Local, the boys and girls had a delightful ball game, writes Lawrence Savage, secretary, when remitting dues.

Joseph D. Acker was chosen secretary at the annual meeting of the George Lake Junior Local. After the April 4th meeting, cards were played and everyone had a good time.

The Keystone Junior Local has now fifty-five members. At the February meeting it was decided to have a membership drive, the losing side to entertain the winners to whatever they decide.

In a previous issue it was reported that Bar Harbor Hustlers Junior Local had had a magic lantern show. This should have read a magic show—sleight-of-hand, escape from locked box, handcuffed, etc.

At the March 22nd meeting of Estonian Junior Local it was decided to form a boys' and girls' swine club. The Juniors are practising for a debate. It was also decided to pay the membership dues out of the Local's funds.

Italian Junior Local was organized at Hylo on March 21st by Antonio Varze, with thirteen paid up members. The officers are: president, Carlo Meardi; secretary, Ruby Marr. Meetings will be held at the members' homes.

Two new members were added to the roll of Broadview Junior Local, at the April meeting held at the home of Mrs. Buxton. Several members signed up for the swine competition, reports Albert Caswell.

The Thorhild Juniors held their last meeting on April 4th with eighteen members present. The members decided to visit the Searle Grain elevator in the near future for a tour of inspection.

At the annual meeting of Columbine Junior Local the following officers were elected: presi-

dent, Malvin Ford; vice-president, Walter Borry; secretary, Mildred Hawthorne; assistant secretary, May Sloan.

A meeting of Consort Junior Local was held at the home of Mrs. Murray, when Ross Campbell gave an interesting paper on hot heds. During the Easter vacation the Seniors and Juniors held a joint social evening.

The play put on by the Rowley Juniors in March to raise funds to send a delegate to the Junior Conference was a decided success, and it was put on at two other places afterwards. \$44.00 was realized. Harvey Russell was chosen delegate.

Sunshine Junior Local elected the following officers for this year: president, George MacIntosh; vice-president, Harold Landymore; secretary-treasurer, Margaret Lennon. At their last dance hard time prices were charged, and \$9.50 made for the treasury.

The last meeting of Flag Pole Hill Juniors was held at the Moorehouse home with full attendance and a few visitors, writes Charlie McDermott, secretary. A spelling match followed by a geography match were the main items, games and refreshments completing a delightful evening.

The Sunnyvale Juniors gave a whist drive on March 21st with a good attendance present. \$10.00 was realized for the treasury. It was decided the roll call at the next meeting should be, "Why every farm boy and girl should belong to the Junior U.F.A."

At the April 4th meeting of the Glenada Junior Local the program was put on by the girls, and included a geography match. After the meeting the girls played soft ball and the boys hard ball, writes Florence Moore, secretary. The Local is sending two delegates to the Junior Conference.

At the annual meeting of the Willow Bank Junior Local the following officers were elected: president, Harold Wightman; secretary, Albert Forbes; supervisor, Mr. W. Wightman. "We hope to sign up quite a few more members," writes the secretary when remitting dues.

The High Prairie Junior Local was organized by Mr. G. W. Randall on April 10th. There are twenty paid-up members. The following officers were elected: president, Robert Kirkness, High Prairie; secretary, Ivy Savill, High Prairie. They expect to get quite a few new members in the near future.

At the April 11th meeting of the Dina Junior Local it was decided to ask the co-operation of the Dina U.F.A. Local in the matter of sending delegates to the Junior Conference. Five directors were elected. Margaret Nicholson was appointed to read the Junior Page at the meetings. A social evening followed the meeting.

Ronald Hepburn, secretary, writes that the Loyalty Juniors are "still going strong despite hard times." On March 13th the Juniors gave their annual play, "Deacon Dubhs," which was a decided success, \$13 being cleared. The Juniors have been asked to put it on again at Pine Lake.

Nora Wainwright is the new secretary of East Milo Junior Local, who have started a baseball team among the boys and hope to get a basketball team started for the girls. They are sending three delegates to the Junior Conference. The Arrowwood Juniors visited East Milo Juniors on March 21st.

At the April meeting of the Turlin Junior Local a member was chosen to read the Junior Page at the meetings. A party was held afterwards, which was well attended. The winners of the

various contests received balloons. After the contests, the members danced "Nutty Dances" originated by the program committee. Refreshments were then served.

The annual meeting of Monarch Junior Local was held at the home of the secretary, Mary Hunwick, on March 18th. The following officers were elected: president, Priena Angeli; vice-president, Karel Reoleofs; secretary-treasurer, Mary Hunwick; together with social, program, sports, handicrafts and membership committees; directors, Mr. M. D. Stitt and Mrs. E. Hann.

Fifteen members were present at the March 17th meeting of Enchant Junior Local, held in the U.F.A. Hall at Enchant. On March 13th the Juniors put on a successful play. Those taking part received free membership for the year. The following are the 1931 officers: President Gerald Snider; vice-president, Burnet Purcell; secretary-treasurer, Ermina Sears.

Twelve members were present at the April 1st meeting of the Alcomdale Junior Local. At the April 15th meeting, Frank Lovelock was elected delegate to attend the Junior Conference. The following directors were elected: Raymond Purches, Arthur Morin, Donald Whitson, Mildred Morin, Ethel Purches and Theodore Aslin were chosen to act on the entertainment committee. Sixteen members were present.

Sexsmith Juniors put on a play and a dance, on March 6th, when \$35.00 was made for the treasury. A spelling match was the main feature at the last meeting, and a recitation match will be at the next. They are planning a debate. Betty Johns, Inge Einarson and Lily Einarson are on the affirmative side; Stanley Warren, Len Gudlaugson and Elna Peckam on the negative.

The last meeting of the North Edmonton Junior Local was held at the home of Mrs. Rowsell. Mr. Griffiths was appointed assistant supervisor. After the general business a debate took place, "Resolved that there are more advantages in the country than in the city." Glen Anderson, Edith Haggard, and Kelly Corbett took the affirmative side; Eva Molineaux, Archie Speer and Dorothy Rowsell took the negative. The negative side won.

The Rainier Junior Local organized a calf club at a special meeting held April 2nd. The officers of the Local are holding the same position in the calf club. Mr. R. R. Baird of Brooks was present and gave an interesting talk on calves. The Rainier Juniors continue having basket ball games. A small charge is made to cover the expense of light and hall. The Juniors held a dance after a set of games with Scandia and realized quite a profit, writes Jeanne Eggenberger, reporter.

The March 28th meeting of the Monarch Junior Local was held at the home of Mary Hunwick. It was decided to put on a whist drive and dance to raise funds to fix up the playground for the children. Mrs. Hunwick donated a box of chocolates to be raffled to raise funds to buy fancy work to make for a bazaar. The tickets sold at 10c each and \$4.50 was realized. Priena Angeli held the lucky ticket. The following program was given: Reading, Caudle's Collar Button, by Mary Hunwick; Mary's Brother Emile, by Emile Han; Rural Beautification (paper) Roehana Wilson; jokes, Mary Reolofs, Carrie and June Hunwick.

"Are you sure that I shall recover?" an anxious patient once asked a physician. "I've heard that doctors sometimes give a wrong diagnosis and have treated patients for pneumonia when afterward they die of typhoid fever."

"You have been woefully misinformed," replied the medicoo, indignantly. "If I treat a man for pneumonia, he dies of pneumonia."

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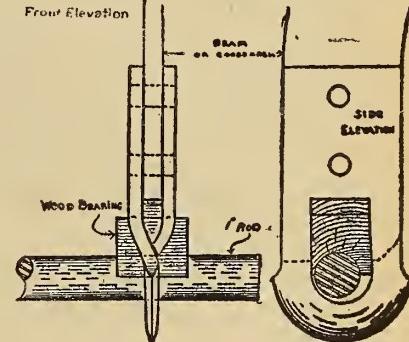
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ASKS FOR WHEAT BOARD

(Continued from page 11)

crop at a lower rate than any other organization; that if the whole crop of Western Canada were marketed in this way the cost of marketing would be reduced to a minimum and thus ensure a better return to the farmer; that by the marketing of the wheat through a wheat board the speculative market would be eliminated and consequently the danger of a heavy fall in prices during the time of heavy deliveries and when hedging pressure would be the greatest would be

ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

entirely removed, again ensuring a better price to the farmer. Mr. Griffiths also urged that inasmuch as the Dominion Government could make trade arrangements with other countries it might be possible to enter into agreements which would reduce competition and thus sustain the market. The member for Russell was also of the opinion that the appointment of a wheat board would be of great help in enabling the Wheat Pools to weather the present economic storm and would allow them to get solidly upon their feet again.

TOGETHERNESS

The Spirit of Co-operation Through the Ages

By F. J. GOULD

The Crab and Other Co-Operators**CHAPTER 2.**

A crab fell on its back in a water-tank at the Brighton Aquarium, England. A prince watched it, and wondered how it would manage to get on its claw-feet again. An iron bar across the tank corner made the return to freedom more difficult. Comrades came to the rescue; that is, comrade crabs. The comrades pushed and lifted, and lifted and pushed. They might have succeeded soon, had it not been for the iron bar. The prince left after two hours. As he threw a last glance at the tank he saw the work of rescue still going on, push, lift, push; and the co-operative claws splashed up and down. The bar to progress still hindered; and alas! our history of the crab tragedy must close without our being able to say if the prisoner ever escaped; though we can readily suppose that a human comrade—the keeper of the aquarium—would act as liberator.

Prince Kropotkin

The prince's name was Kropotkin (b. 1842, d. 1921). Born of a rich Russian family, he had a keen eye for the world of nature and of men. He spent years in going to and fro in the north of Asia and Europe, noting rocks, rivers, lakes, swamps, forests, glaciers, bears and other beasts; that is to say, Kropotkin was an earth describer, or geographer. A yet nobler work awaited. His heart felt love for the Russian plowman and herdsmen and cottage wives. The rest of his life was given to the service of man, in Russia, in England, in workmen's movements. "Mutual Aid" or the help of one another was his Word, in sun and shadow, in gladness and sorrow. I saw him white-bearded, on a London platform, when he spoke on behalf of the desolate and poverty-stricken. Once, in a woodland glade in the south of England, I sat with children who listened to Kropotkin's wife, as with a magnifying glass in her hand, she told of the ants and how they labored together in their underground homes.

Kropotkin was sure Darwin was right in teaching that the higher animals—man, horse, ox, dog, ape, etc.—came in a long line, or growth or climb, or Evolution from lower forms of life—land-life, water-life. But when he heard folks say: "Each animal has a hard struggle for

existence, a hard battle of pain and blood, to reach its best life", Kropotkin answered:

"No! Struggle is not all. In the animal world most sorts (species) live in societies; and they find in association the best arms and tools for the building of life."

Kropotkin in 1902, brought out his splendid book on Mutual Aid, and, right at the beginning, he told the tale of the crab. It had taken him seven years to write this happy book of fraternity.

Kropotkin seemed to sit in a kinema hall, and view the vast moving pictures of animal life. Of course, he beheld teeth and claws crimson with blood and dark scenes of war, but he perceived that the societies that aided and befriended rose to triumph and those that were always biting and crunching and devouring did not rise for long.

In South America, he saw long legged pelicans standing in shallow water near the shore of a lake. They divided into two banks facing each other, and while they marched as if to meet, they were driving the fish; and when the two bands met, and formed a circle, they could feast on the food which they had combined to catch. As dusk fell, the co-operative birds flew to their resting place; each to its own nest.

Association of Cockatoos

In Australia, our Russian observer saw a regiment of white cockatoos advance towards a corn field, which lay on the edge of a forest. Scouts (trained, perhaps, by some kind of Baden-Powell parrot) went in front, and perched in trees that stood nearest the corn. "Was all clear?" they appeared to ask. "Yes!" and at the signal the whole band flew forward to the banquet. We pity the Australian farmers who lost their corn; but we admire the association that led the cockatoos to the Land of Plenty!

He saw the friendly assembly of bears in Tibet. In one case of the Asiatic mountains, a hundred and fifty bears slept together; and all their teeth were mighty, and all the might was peace. Lions sometimes hunted in companies. Wolves pursued in packs. Wild dogs in Asia did not fear, if running in bands, to attack the bear or the tiger. Even the foxes, which we so often think of as solitary, could collaborate, or labor together. Behring, the navigator and his brave seamen left stores in mounds, or piled on top of a pillar; and foxes, side by side (bad for Behring, and good for the furry robbers!) they dug food out

from the cairns; and a fox—a captain, indeed, and "King of the Castle"—mounted the pillar, and flung the booty down to his open-mouthed companions.

Kropotkin saw in North America a wide prairie where little heaps of earth were each topped by a barking prairie dog. If one—a sharp-eyed sentry—caught sight of an approaching man, a signal sent all the brotherhood into dark passages below. If the danger passed, all the members of the society jumped up to sunlight or moonlight again and barked and played and rolled about and visited one another's homes; and all the time, for the sake of the common life and welfare, wise old dogs stood on guard, and gazed across the plain.

Co-operating Horses

Kropotkin saw wild horses, alarmed by the onset of wolves or lions, neigh the alarm, and crowd together in a squad, and beat away the foe with their co-operating hoofs. He saw huge armies of buffaloes journeying across level lands in America, horn with horn, and flank by flank, in what some folk laugh at as "herd-instinct." In Siberia, when heavy snows fell on the wilderness, and covered the food supplies of the deer, they—in their language—called to one another to unite, to march, to migrate to the happier south; and, in tens of thousands, they stepped into the waters of the Amur and swam the great river.

He saw a hunter shoot a female monkey, and when he came nigh to pick up the body a great multitude of monkeys gathered about the corpse crying piteously, as if forbidding the robbery of their dead friend; and the hunter (James Forbes), stayed his hand, and resolved never again to fire at a member of the monkey race. The noble writer, W. H. Hudson (d. 1922), once beheld, in South America, flocks of Chakar-birds—about five hundred in each flock—chanting bird notes. One flock chanted and ceased; the next flock took up the strain; and so on; as if, in simple bird-speech and song, to tell birds, and beasts, and humanity, that the music of co-operation was the true anthem of the world.

Another talk will appear in the next issue of *The U.F.A.*

Trail

By EDGAR A. GUEST

We are not promised easy roads to fare,
It was not said life should be struggle
free.

Burdens there are for every man to bear,
Pain is the symbol of mortality.

Who suffers, lives! Who neither hopes
nor fears

And is not conscious that his joys may
cease

Has joined the dead of all the ancient
years,

For in the grave is only perfect peace.
We grow by strife, by faith in doubtful
days,

By courage in the presence of despair,
Those splendid virtues men are quick
to praise

Are fashioned by the burdens which
they bear.

The living suffer, and the wise men know
That out of struggle conquest is
attained,
Faith holds them fast through all the
storms which blow

And there's no loss but something else
is gained.

The following extract is taken from an editorial in the *Toronto Globe*, issued April 2, 1931. "Hon. G. Howard Ferguson's proposal for consideration of 'orderly marketing of export surpluses' of wheat evidently came to the Production Committee of the World Wheat Conference at Rome with refreshing relief in the midst of a discussion which was leading nowhere. . . . The scope of the scheme is almost colossal. If adopted, it would apply the marketing principle of the Canadian Wheat Pool to all the chief wheat-producing countries, to the undoubted advantage of Canadian growers."

MAPLE LEAF MEETING

TORONTO, April 15.—The question whether legal action should be taken against former officers of the Maple Leaf Milling Company, Limited, held by the board of directors to have been responsible for losses of nearly six million dollars, was left in the hands of the board by shareholders who attended a special general meeting of the company today. The shareholders entered into a discussion as to securities obtained from the former president, James Stewart, of Winnipeg, who together with A. B. MacDonald, former general manager, resigned last June. Losses of \$5,806,803 between March 31st, 1929, and July 31st, 1930, through "unauthorized accounts and speculation" were attributed by the board to these two officials. One stockholder wanted to know if the losses were incurred without the knowledge of the board and was told unauthorized speculations with the company's funds were "without the knowledge of the directors." It was stated the shares turned over by the former president represented about 25 per cent of the total outstanding common share of Maple Leaf. A stockholder reminded the chairman that at the annual meeting Mr. Stewart was said to hold 51 per cent of the outstanding shares, and in reply H. J. Symington of Winnipeg, vice-president, said some of these shares were hypothecated to banks and other creditors, and that Mr. Stewart did not own a share of the stock.

News and Views

The organization opposed to the hundred per cent pool in Saskatchewan is now printing a paper and broadcasting daily from Regina.

The Argentine will probably show a decrease in wheat acreage this year from 15 to 20 per cent. The United States spring wheat area will be decreased by approximately 12 per cent.

The International Institute of Agriculture at Rome holds little hope of any considerable amelioration of the wheat market situation unless the 1931 production shows marked reduction in relation to that of previous years.

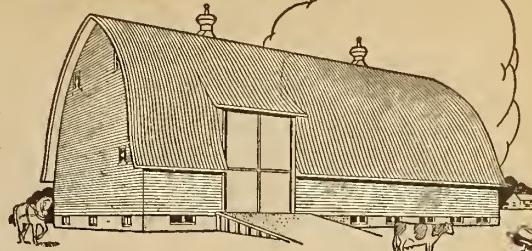
Victoria, Australia, Wheat Growers' Corporation has summoned a conference of representatives of similar corporations of New South Wales, South Australia and West Australia to consider whether joint action with the Argentine in measure of control of wheat marketing is advisable.

Alex U. McDonnell of Lougheed, Alberta, Pool member No. 35448, was

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88 years old on the 16th of December, 1930. He is one of the oldest members of this organization of which we have record.

A proposal that the Federal Farm Board lease between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 acres of wheat land and retire it from production until the domestic surplus is reduced has been submitted to Chairman Stone of the Farm Board by the Oklahoma Farmers' Co-operative Grain Dealers' Association.

The Argentina Government is contemplating the construction of a chain of several hundred grain elevators and considering an offer made by C. D. Howe & Company of Port Arthur in connection therewith. The Canadian company proposes to draw the plans and supervise the work, the Government to take over the elevators when completed.

Something in the spirit of a military campaign is being infused into the spring sowing in Russia. A tremendous national drive is being carried on in which the government, the press and all organs of public propaganda are enthusiastically

ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

engaged. It is planned to seed 250,000,000 acres to all grains, which is 25,000,000 acres above last year, or an area equal to the size of normal wheat plantings in Western Canada.

The Manitoba Legislature altered the provisions of its legislation covering repayment of government guarantees for the Pool overpayment of 1929, to make Pool members liable to the Pool for their overpayment, and the Pool organization itself, liable to the Government. Originally, the Manitoba Guarantee Act provided for direct claim by the Manitoba Government against each Pool member personally, in addition to the Pool as a corporation providing security for the guarantee. This clause was not included in the legislation of the other two Provinces, and its deletion in Manitoba brings the Manitoba Guarantee legislation in line with that of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Teacher: "Can anyone tell me what is meant by the Yellow Peril?"

Boy: "Yes, sir; it's a banana skin left on the pavement."

Returns to Wheat Growers

The following interesting data showing net returns to wheat growers in Canada, Australia and the Argentine on the basis of prices ruling on March 31st, 1931, has been compiled by the department of statistics of the Canadian Wheat Pool. It sets out the numerous charges accumulated against wheat in its movement from the farm to the consuming market, and affords a comparison in transportation costs in these three leading export countries.

CANADA

(Note:—All costs basis actual charges being incurred by Canadian Wheat Pool for May-June, 1931, ocean shipment).

Cents per bushel
Liverpool price (March 31st, 1931)
per bushel No. 2 Nor., Atlantic

April shipment	74.0
Deduct:	
(1) Outturn and marine insurance	1.00
(2) Loading into boat at Montreal and ocean freight to Liverpool	6.00
(3) Handling, brokerage, wharfage, etc., at Montreal	0.50
(4) Lake freight Ft. William to Montreal by all-water route, including vessel brokerage and terminal unloading charges	9.50
5) Lake insurance, outturn and C.I.F. brokerage	0.75
(6) Loading, inspection, weighing, Lake shippers' transfer, etc., at Fort William	1.50
(7) Railway freight typical Saskatchewan point to Ft. William	13.50
(8) Average country elevator handling charges (average of consigned at 3¢ and Sask. Pool street spread at 4¢)	3.50
Total cost of handling and shipping from country point to Liverpool	36.25
Net return to grower at country elevator	37.75

ARGENTINA	Cents per bushel
Liverpool price (March 31st, 1931)	
Argentine Rosafe (63 lbs.) April shipment	
	58.75
Deduct:	
(1) Outturn and marine insurance approximately	1.50
(2) Average ocean freight (March 19) Argentine ports to Liverpool	12.50
Price per bushel, in Canadian currency, f.o.b. Argentina ports	44.75

Note:—The Argentine paper peso at par is worth 42 45-100 Canadian cents, but on March 31st, 1931, it was worth only 34½ cents. As all the following charges are payable in Argentine currency, they should be deducted from the price per bushel at Argentina ports, expressed in Canadian cents at the par rate of exchange, which is.....	54.67
Deduct:	
(1) Customs brokers' fee	0.57
(2) Official charges, stamps and labor	1.12
(3) Statistical charge	0.42
(4) Insurance	0.14
(5) Commission to broker	0.74
(6) Free labor contribution fee	0.05
(7) Loading on steamer	0.23
(8) Elevator storage, seven days	0.20
(9) Unloading into elevator	0.46
(10) Port traction charge	1.03
(11) Average railway freight for average haul of 144 miles	11.74
(12) Loading in cars	0.64
(13) Weighing	0.64
(14) Storage at country station	0.90
(15) Hauling from farm to railway station average distance 10 miles	6.50
(16) Bags	5.00
Total cost of handling and shipping from average farm to f.o.b. Argentina ports	31.02

Note.—Usually there is an export tax (in 1927 it was 1.23 cents per bushel).

The export tax is levied upon the excess value of wheat above a certain basic price the appraisement value being set monthly. As the basic price fixed for wheat is \$45.08 (gold) per metric ton, and the appraisement is now only \$24.10 (gold) per metric ton, the levy of 12 per cent does not apply at present.

Net return to grower on farm 23.65

Average cost of threshing 11.00

Net return to grower for producing and harvesting 12.65

Note.—It should be borne in mind that the above computation is based upon the price of 63 pound Rosafe wheat in sound condition, and is, therefore, a good deal higher than the actual return for the average run of wheat. Mr. Jackman, the Canadian Pool's representative in the Argentine, reports that 35 per cent of the crop is light in weight, and of this amount 20 per cent is undesirable for milling. In addition, there is considerable tough, damp and smutty wheat. Moreover, it should be remembered that the net return to the producer for growing and harvesting of 12.65 cents per bushel is calculated at par rate of exchange, and is equivalent to only 10.65 Canadian cents for purchases outside the Argentine.

AUSTRALIA Cents per bushel

Liverpool price (March 31, 1931),
Australian new crop (F.A.Q.)
March shipment 63.00

Deduct:

- (1) Outturn and marine insurance approximately 1.50
- (2) Average ocean freight (March 19) Australian ports to Liverpool 20.00

Price per bushel in Canadian currency, f.o.b. Australian ports 41.50

Note.—The Australian pound at par is worth \$4.86 2-3, but on March 31, 1931, it was worth only \$3.72 3-16. As all the following charges are payable in Australian currency, they should be deducted from the price per bushel at Australian ports expressed in Canadian cents at the par rate of exchange, which is 54.27

Deduct:

- (1) Average railway freight for average haul in South Australia (77 miles) 8.00
- (2) Receiving agents' handling costs and all other charges to place grain on board 8.00

Total cost handling and shipping wheat from country stations to f.o.b. Australian ports 16.00

Net return to grower for wheat in bags at country station 38.27

Note.—It should be borne in mind that the above computation is based upon the price of fair average quality Australian wheat. There is considerable wheat in Australia of inferior quality which cannot be included in the F.A.Q. standard. In New South Wales, for instance, a separate pool is being conducted for inferior wheat, the initial payment on which is 6 cents per bushel less than for the F.A.Q. sorts. What is much more important, the net return to the growers for wheat in bags at the country station of 38.27 cents is calculated at the par rate of exchange and is equivalent to only 29.27 Canadian cents for purchases outside of Australia.

News from the Head Office of Alberta Livestock Pool

Arranging Contract With English Co-operators

Developments of much importance to livestock producers who are members of the co-operative marketing organizations of Canada are taking place. Plans of a positive character are maturing which have in view the establishment of close business relationships between Canadian producer co-operators and British co-operators who are potential consumers of large quantities of our farmers' products.

At the conclusion of a conference held at Edmonton under the chairmanship of A. B. Claypool, on April 16th, to which reference is made on page 4, Wray Eastwood, manager of the livestock department of the Manchester District C. W. S., expressed great pleasure at the quality of the beef seen by the English co-operators' delegation during a tour of Alberta ranches, and stated that if the Wholesale could be assured of continuity of supply up to the standard which he had seen there was no obstacle to weekly shipments of as many as 450 or 500 head. Prices would not be the consideration; also that a trade could be worked up for bacon and dressed lamb if continuity of supply could be assured.

At a conference later in Premier Brownlee's office a contract now being arranged between the C. W. S. and the Canadian Livestock Pool for regular shipments of 75 head every week of blue label quality was discussed in detail. The Pool will depend largely on Alberta stockmen for continuity and increase of this supply.

Policies of Packing Plants

Evidence given before the Agricultural Committee of the Legislature at the recent session by Mr. Young, manager of the Pool, and others, is concluded below:

Edmonton Butcher's Challenge

Mr. Young's statement on the stand regarding the retail trade was also challenged by an Edmonton butcher, through the press on March 16th, under the heading of "Considering Price of Beef." The following is a copy of same:

"George Goddard, 9315-94th St. has taken issue with the claim of William Young, manager of the Alberta Co-operative Livestock Producers, that the spread between what the producer receives and the consumer pays for beef is too great, as reported in his evidence before the Agricultural Committee of the Legislature.

"Mr. Young has cited beef costing six cents a pound on the hoof, retailing at 35 cents a pound. Mr. Goddard agreed that such would be the top price, but does not think the claim would be warranted 'from looking at a dish of trimmed sirloin or T-bone steaks in some high rental area store window.'"

"I venture to say right now that the percentage of butchers in this city who

are charging 35 cents per pound for even sirloin steak is very small," said Mr. Goddard, who figures gross profit on beef at only 20 per cent of the retail selling price of a carcass.

"He pointed out that butchers have to pay such things as license fee, rent, light, power, business tax, wages, etc., and it must be realized that the butchers, as well as any other business men, would like to get some return for the money they have invested in buying equipment which is necessary to meet the requirements of the city health by-laws.

"If Mr. Young would like some figures on the wholesale buying and retail selling of a 1,000 lb. steer which is crammed up with feed and water before being sold, here they are: 1000 lb. steer at six cents is \$60 plus commission agent's fees. Its dressed weight is approximately 518 pounds. It costs the butcher about 10½ to 11½ cents a pound.

Weights, Prices, Profits

"Here are the approximate weights, costs per cut, average selling prices, per cent profit on sales, and retail values of one side of beef:

Wght.	Cut	Sell	Totals
34	Round	.20½	\$ 6.88
40	Loin	.25	6.70
15	Rump	.18	2.70
16	Flank	.08½	1.32
5	Suet	.10	.50
19	Shank	.07	1.33
29	Rib	.21	6.09
29	Plate	.08½	2.39
57	Chuck	.12	6.84
6	Neck	.08	.48
9	Trims	.05	.45

259 lbs. Side beef	\$35.68
Carcass sells for -	\$71.36
Hide, 65 lbs., at 2½c.	2.13
Offal realizes	2.00
	\$75.49
Profit approximately	\$15.49

Mr. Young's Reply

On March 18th, Mr. Young replied in an article through the press, but up-to-date this has not been published. This is a copy of the reply given to the press:

"I note by an article in the *Journal*, March 16th, that Mr. Goddard takes

Live—

Steer, 1,000 lbs., at 4 1-4 .....	.....	.....	.....	\$42.50
Buy commission.....	.....	.....	.....	.90
Slaughtering charge, maximum.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00
				—

Retail Prices to Consumer—

Bought Wholesale from Packer	34 lbs. round at 20½c	\$ 6.88	Gross retail price, full carcass.....	\$77.96
	40 lbs. loin at 25c	10.00	Plus 10 lbs. liver at 15c..	1.50
	15 lbs. rump at 18c.....	2.70	Plus 4 lbs. heart at 12c..	.48
518 lbs. at 8½c—	16 lbs. flank at 8½c	1.32	Plus 4 lbs. Tongue at 25c	1.00
Cost.....\$44.03	5 lbs. suet at 10c.....	.50	Hide, 68 lbs. at 2½c	1.70
Retail.....\$77.96	19 lbs. shank at 7c	1.33		
	29 lbs. rib at 21c.....	6.09		
Profit.....\$33.93	29 lbs. plate at 8½c	2.39		
or 77.93 per cent	57 lbs. chuck at 12c	6.85	Less Cost	\$46.40
	6 lbs. neck at 8c .....	.48		
	9 lbs. trim at 5c .....	.45	Gross Profit	36.24
			or 78.10 per cent	

"Therefore, according to Mr. Goddard's own figures regarding dressing percentage which sets the wholesale price, and his price to the consumer, it looks as if my contention given before the Agriculture Committee, that dealers were not selling according to grade, is not so far out of line."

issue to my evidence given before the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature, where I quoted Red Label beef selling for 35 cents per lb. and only costing 6 cents live. He contends this is out of line, and figures that I must have been looking at a plate of T-bone steak, and would draw my attention to the fact that all the carcass is not sold at this price.

"I may say that all this was taken into consideration in my statement. The 35 cents was for T-bone roast as a basis, and all other cuts in relation. To justify his contention, he quotes a 1,000 lb. steer at 6 cents live, dressing 518 lbs. or dressing percentage 51 3-4 per cent cost of dressed carcass 11½c. It is quite evident that Mr. Goddard is not acquainted or accustomed to handling Red Label beef, or he would know that a 1,000 lb. steer is not eligible for the Red Label grade and that Red Label beef has to dress from 58 per cent to 60 per cent.

"I note that Mr. Goddard's retail prices are based on the live price of Red Label, and works from the high basis of 25 cents per lb. with other cuts in relation, which is in line with my evidence, namely that 25 cents as a basis on the high cuts would be more in line than 35 cents. He then details the average weight of each cut and retail prices on same, arriving at a profit of \$15.49 on a 1,000 lb. steer.

"If Mr. Goddard will check his figures, he will find that 40 lbs. loin at 25 cents amounts to \$10.00 instead of \$6.70 per side, this makes his profit \$22.09 per steer instead of \$15.49 or 36.81 per cent. That is on the presumption that the live cost is 6 cents, but surely Mr. Goddard does not want me to believe he is paying 6 cents for steers only dressing 51 3-4 per cent. If this is so we would appreciate his order at the stock yards; in fact, will be willing to fill his order on steers dressing this percentage at 4½ cents.

Could Buy for 4½c

"As a matter of fact there are no steers weighing 1,000 lbs. making 6 cents regardless of quality. The only steers that would bring this price would be Red Label weighing around 800 lbs. with a dressing percentage of 58 per cent to 60 per cent. According to Mr. Goddard's figures, regarding the dressing percentage of his steers, he is handling medium quality meats, which can be purchased at 4½ cents live, or wholesale from the packers at 8½ cents dressed. As this quality can be bought on this basis let us follow the transaction right through, taking Mr. Goddard's retail prices to the consumer:

Convention Decisions in Summary

An Outline of Action Taken on Many Resolutions

Extensive reports of many of the major features of the Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta have been published in successive issues of *The U.F.A.* over a period of several weeks. Below we give an outline of all resolutions adopted by the Convention, which have not hitherto been dealt with, and of various events of Convention week. Among the resolutions summarized below are a substantial number of outstanding importance, but owing to inadequate space it has not been found possible to report the discussions which took place upon them. Although much time has now elapsed since the Convention, delegates and the membership as a whole have always been desirous of being informed of action taken on each resolution through the official organ, and the decisions are outlined below as a matter of record.

A memorable address was given by Dr. Wallace of the University of Alberta, while the message of fraternal greeting brought by Ald. F. J. White, M.L.A., which was cordially received, gave expression to the fundamental unity of aim—the transformation of our competitive social order into the co-operative commonwealth—of the farmer and labor movements. Reports of especial interest were presented during the week by Norman F. Priestley in behalf of the Alberta Co-operative Council, by the Canadian Council of Agriculture (written by the Secretary, Arthur E. Darby), and by A. H. Tovell, Manager of the Alberta Hail Insurance Board.

Representation at Nominating Conventions

A resolution proposing that the basis of representation at all U.F.A. Federal and Provincial nominating conventions should be the average membership of Locals for the current year together with the two preceding calendar years as shown by the records of Central Office was lost after considerable discussion. The object of the resolution as set forth by its sponsors was to prevent the possibility of persons not genuinely interested in the U.F.A. coming in at the last moment before nominating conventions in order to affect the choice. By making the basis of representation a period of years of membership in the Association it was hoped to eliminate this risk. Although the resolution failed to carry the discussion plainly showed that there was a keen desire among the delegates to guard against the risks mentioned.

Following the presentation of the report of the Senior Committee on Junior work on the opening day of the Convention, Miss Molly Coupland, Vice-president of the branch, gave a brief talk which was much appreciated.

Vote of Condolence

On motion of Mr. Scholefield the Convention extended its deepest sympathy to Mrs. M. L. Sears and family in their bereavement.

Fraternal greetings from the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan, who regretted that it was not possible to send a delegate, and extending best wishes for the success of the Convention, were received, and it was directed that

the thanks of the U.F.A. be expressed to the sister organization.

During Tuesday's sittings of the Convention the financial statements of the Association and of *The U.F.A.* were adopted after discussion.

* The report of *The U.F.A.*, official organ of the Association, was adopted and after discussion the Convention further adopted a resolution directing that the Board endeavor to co-operate with all the Pools "in an effort to put *The U.F.A.* on a satisfactory financial footing," and directing that the editorial policy of the paper be left always under the control of the U. F. A. Board. The following was adopted: "That this Convention goes on record as complimenting the Executive of the U.F.A. on having so capable and efficient an editor and one who has shown himself such a whole-hearted supporter of U.F.A. ideals."

A further resolution asked that "the various branches of the movement give greater financial support to our paper so as to make it unnecessary to take such advertising" as that of the Moderation League.

Resolutions in Summary

Among resolutions adopted by the Convention were the following:

Asking *The U.F.A.* to publish in serial form short courses in economics and sociology.

Expressing opposition to the policy of the Federal Long Term Farm Loan Board in refusing to consider applications for loans in certain districts, and demanding the repeal of the proviso in the act compelling occupation by owner of land pledged as security.

Asking that a fee of \$2 be charged for registration instead of automobile license fees, a tax being placed on gasoline to make up the balance of revenues.

Asking that when an automobile license is transferred from a large car to a smaller one, a refund of the difference in the fees payable in respect to the two types of cars be made.

Asking reduction to a nominal sum of license fees on all farm trucks not used as common carriers.

Asking substantial reduction of telephone rates.

Asking that telephone poles be placed in fence lines in cases of new construction or rebuilding of existing lines.

Asking that a portion of the liquor profits be devoted to educational work in temperance.

Urging the Provincial Government to formulate a plan of redistribution to provide for representation on an economic group basis.

Favoring the introduction of the county system, boundaries being so determined as to provide, as far as possible, "a practical unit in all matters of local self-government."

Asking that the Municipal Hospitals Act be made to coincide with the Municipal Act in respect to the right of women to vote.

Petitioning the Federal Government to make every effort to solve the unemployment problem, and suggesting the following in regard thereto:

1. Immediate provision for the destitute; 2. Seasonal unemployment to be taken care of by co-operative insurance, premium to be paid by employee, employer and the state; 3. Economic survey to be undertaken to suggest a permanent solution.

Asking legislation to enable U.F.A. Locals and other organizations to purchase coal direct from the mines; and asking that closer supervision be exercised of car load weights at weighing points.

High Cost of Machinery and Oil

Asking the Provincial Government to investigate the high costs of gasoline and oils, with a view to bringing prices more in line with those prevailing in other parts of the continent.

Asking the Federal Government to inquire into the cost of manufacture and distribution of all farm machinery sold in Western Canada.

Asking that "naturalization be made a personal matter instead of a matter of marriage."

Approving of the present policy of restricted immigration, and asking that "in the event of immigration being thrown open the people from Central European countries be not allowed to settle in blocks."

Asking the Post Office Department to assume full responsibility for registered mail or to advertise to the public that they do not hold themselves responsible.

Asking that postmasters be required when issuing a receipt for registered mail to show on said receipt the name of the addressee.

Directing that at future Conventions all reports except the address of the President and the report of the U.F.A. Central Board be printed and in the hands of delegates at least 24 hours before being discussed.

Adopting report of Insurance Committee of Board and directing that the Board investigate further.

Asking that all fire insurance companies be compelled to pay losses "in the full amount of the insurance for which premiums are being collected."

Asking the Alberta Government to amend the Motor Vehicles and Highways Traffic Act to provide that each driver or owner of an automobile shall take out accident insurance at the time of registration of license.

Speculation in Grain

Requesting Parliament to "institute a thorough investigation into the speculation in grain with a view to abolishing all marginal dealings not represented by actual grain."

Asking that railways plank roadways at crossings "to the width of at least 24 feet of road on all main highways."

Opposing the establishment of any toll roads in the Province.

Asking amendment of the Succession Duties Act to provide that exemptions under the act be made "according to the number of heirs rather than the value of the estate, as at the present time the exemption of \$10,000 is allowed whether the heirs number one or ten;" and also "that the rate of interest charged under said act in paragraph 19, section 2, be changed from 6 per cent to 4 per cent, and under paragraph 21, section 2, from 5 per cent to 4 per cent and under paragraph 24 from 6 per cent to 4 per cent."

Authorizing the Board to "use their own judgment in regard to arranging

meetings and speakers asked for by Locals."

Asking for "an equitable adjustment as between rural and urban property owners" in respect to the application of the supplementary revenue tax.

Asking that members of the legal profession be bonded.

Appreciation of Government's Action

Expressing appreciation of the action taken by the Alberta Government in cases where undue pressure is exercised by mortgage and machine companies.

Strongly opposing continuance of former practice whereby "no effort was made to confine settlement to compact or restricted areas."

Requesting the Federal Government to make an investigation "as to the percentage of each grade of bacon turned out of packing plants compared with the percentage of a similar grade of hogs going into the plants."

Requesting railway companies to repair fences and telephone lines cut during construction of new railroads without delay; also that railways "pay for land for right-of-way by the time they take possession."

Asking that jurors and witnesses in law courts be paid "a reasonable amount for their attendance, in order that no actual loss will be sustained in any way through performing this service to the country."

Asking the Federal Government "to extend long term loans to farmers for the purchase of purebred stock and in the case of dairy stock for the purchase of females from inspected herds."

Teaching Co-operation

Asking that "some facilities be provided in our present educational system to improve the teaching of agriculture and co-operation in our rural schools."

Asking the Alberta Government "to investigate the possibility of giving the teachers of our grades, and especially of our high schools, a better understanding of the principles underlying our experiment in democratic government, with a view to gaining a more sympathetic attitude on the part of these teachers towards this effort."

Among resolutions rejected by the Convention was one asking that the sessional indemnity of members of the Legislature be reduced by 25 per cent and that a general reduction be made of salaries and wages in all government departments; and also a resolution which specifically proposed the reduction of the salaries of all government employees by 25 per cent, except those who receive \$100 a month or less.

The Convention expressed appreciation to officials of Central United Church and to the Minister, Rev. J. E. Todd, to the Probus Club, to the Mayor and City Council and all citizens, to the Rev. Dr. Dickson, to the Board of Trade and Kiwanis Club, and to all entertainers and others who assisted in making the Convention pleasurable and successful.

Votes of thanks to the Chairmen of the Convention and Committees, to the Secretary, Miss Bateman, and Staff, and to the Editor and Assistant Editor of the paper were carried.

Prior to the adjournment, President Robert Gardiner appealed briefly to the delegates for their support and co-operation during the coming year. The Convention closed with the National Anthem and three cheers for President Gardiner.

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	Motor Medium, Heavy	.71	.73	.77	.85
30	Motor Heavy	.72	.74	.78	.86
	Motor Extra Heavy	.75	.77	.81	.89
40	Tractor Heavy "D"	.75	.77	.81	.89
50	Tractor Extra Heavy "C"	.82	.84	.88	.95
60	Tractor Super Heavy "B"	.82	.84	.88	.95
	Red Engine Oil	.64	.66	.70	.78
	Steam Cylinder Oil, No. 600	.73	.75	.79	.87
	Castor Machine	.63	.65	.69	.77
	Transmission (Summer)	.65	.67	.71	.79
	Transmission (Winter)	.65	.67	.71	.79
	Harness Oil	.67	.69	.73	.81
	Cream Separator Oil	.67	.69	.73	.81
	Floor Oil, Plain	.67	.69	.73	.81
	Floor Oil, Antiseptic	.77	.79	.83	.91
	Compressor Oil	.75	.77	.81	.89
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REGISTERED PEDIGREE SEED, FIRST generation, registered Marquis wheat, first generation, registered Victory oats, second generation, registered OAC 21 barley, all from specially selected pedigree lines suitable for producing a crop of high quality and show purposes. Moderate prices. Apply H. G. L. Strange, Fenn, Alta.

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WANTED AT ONCE—CAR OF GOOD UP-land hay. Apply to F. J. Kernick, Canmore Dalry, Canmore, Alberta, stating price

Problem of Soil Drifting

Plans to Cope with Serious Situation

(By Pool Publicity Department)

The serious question of soil drifting throughout the Province of Alberta was considered at a meeting of the Alberta Board of Agriculture held in Edmonton, Thursday, April 30th. As a result of the deliberations of this body the following recommendations were made:

(1) That as long as the present period of drought and high winds prevail, the seeding of land subject to drifting be delayed as late as possible.

(2) That farmers should avoid unnecessary field cultivation.

(3) Seeding at right angles to prevailing winds is desirable. Plowing of occasional furrows across fields at right angles to prevailing winds, after seeding, particularly in knolls, is recommended.

(4) Drifting does its most serious damage on summerfallow. Prevent recurrence of damage in 1932 and following years by adopting this season, "small field" or "strip" farming methods. Avoid having a large acreage of summerfallow in one field.

DID NOT WITHDRAW MOTION

With reference to a report from the press gallery at Edmonton which appeared in *The U.F.A.* during the recent session of the Legislature, A. M. Matheison, M.L.A., writes, in a letter received this week:

"In one of your recent issues, I noticed a report regarding a resolution which I placed before the Legislative Assembly of the Province asking the Dominion Government to set a price of fifty-five cents per bushel at the point of delivery for the 1930-31 crop. In your report, you stated that I withdrew my motion in favor of a sub-amendment moved by Premier Brownlee. I might say that I did not withdraw the motion but merely suggested to Mr. Mitchell Member for Leduc, that if he would withdraw his amendment in the interests of unity, I would be willing to withdraw mine provided the House could get together on any motion regarding the matter which could be passed unanimously."

"Although my motion did not consider the crop for the coming year, I still believe it to have been the best of the three presented to the House because if there were any differentials to be assumed at any time by the tax-payers of Canada, then that differential would have been borne equally by all tax-payers and any benefit would have accrued equally pro rata to every wheat grower in Canada regardless of where he lived. Further than that, when you speak of seventy cent wheat, basis Fort William, you create an impression in Eastern Canada that seventy cents is the price that the farmers get for it instead of from twenty to twenty-five cents per bushel as they have been actually getting this last year."

Taking an average of the eight years prior to June, 1928, the muskrat stands first in order of value of raw fur production for Canada as a whole, but in several of the provinces it yields place to other kinds of fur bearers. In each of the Maritime Provinces, the silver fox leads; in Quebec and British Columbia the beaver is first; in the Northwest Territories, the white fox; and in the Yukon, the lynx. In Ontario and the Prairie Provinces the muskrat is of chief importance.

With an abundance of low priced coarse grains and wheat available there is an apparent tendency on the part of farmers. It is stated by officials

of the Livestock Branch, Ottawa, to overfeed their market hogs. This is shown by the increase in the average weight of hogs now coming onto the market. The two hundred pound hog is the ideal market weight A. A. MacMillan, Chief of the Sheep and Swine Division of the Federal Department of Agriculture, points out. With the price of lard what it is today, relatively lower than the price of bacon, it is the bacon type which means money to the producer. Farmers should watch hog feeding closely to guard against both light weight and excess fat—he must keep away from the out-weight grades if he is going to get the top of the market for his hogs.

U.F.A. Local Items

The last meeting of Lethbridge U.F.A. Local, writes H. J. Flock, secretary, by unanimous vote endorsed the Manifesto brought before the last Annual Convention by the Central Board.

"In an attempt to round up all the old work horses of the U.F.A." writes Ivan L. Wiley, secretary pro tem of Rimley Local, meetings are being held every two weeks at various points within a radius of six or eight miles of Rimley. "We have a large Local here in spirit, but money is nil; but we hope the paid-up membership will soon increase to a larger Local than before."

Eleven new members joined Wayne U.F.A. Local at their last meeting, according to word received from the secretary, S. B. Nielson. Directors were elected as follows: P. Jacobson, O. Axelson, O. Sorenson, C. H. Boe and A. J. Jensen. The secretary was instructed to write to the Department of Municipal Affairs to find out if it were true that Tp. 27 in Range 19, W. 4, is to be added to the new industrial district along the Red Deer Valley. A motion to ask the Central Board to enlarge *The U.F.A.* paper was discussed, and tabled for further consideration at the next meeting. The Local also supported the suggestion of their president that farmers be allowed to do road work to help pay their taxes.

Glen Storie, U.F.A. Director, recently addressed an appreciative meeting of Alcomdale U.F.A. Local, writes Mrs. Agnes M. Purches, secretary, and they expect to have an address from Geo. Bevington after seeding. It was decided to accept notes for membership dues, maturing October 1st, and to pay Central Office fees from funds on hand. The final whist drive of the series was held, grand prizes going to Mrs. W. G. Purches and Jack Turcott.

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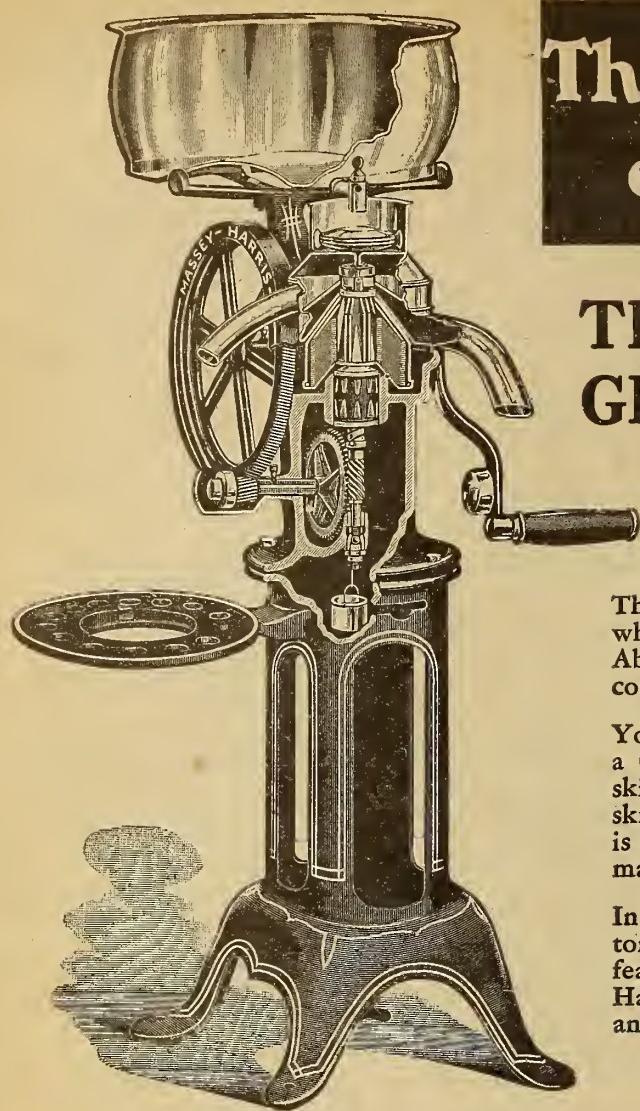
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